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Diplomats in Moldova Demand Protection

LD1706122893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1157 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, 17 Jun—Diplomats in Moldova have sent a letter to the country's Foreign Ministry in which they demand to be provided with normal working conditions, proper security, and protection of property.

The letter, signed by heads of diplomatic missions from Russia, China, Germany, Hungary, Bulgaria, and Ukraine, states that official representatives of these countries have not yet received embassy premises in Chisinau. They are forced to live in one of the capital's hotels, which creates a lot of problems because the building is not guarded. There have already been repeated attempts to steal diplomats' belongings. For example, at the beginning of June several diplomatic cars were burglarized in front of the hotel. In connection with this the diplomats have demanded separate parking, security, and other working conditions.

International Nuclear Fusion Experts Meet in Novosibirsk

PM1706150193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA/ITAR-TASS report: "Thermonuclear Reactor Unites Scientists"]

[Text] The international conference on open systems of containing thermonuclear plasma is continuing work in Novosibirsk.

Its participants are discussing the state and propects of research into containing and heating plasma in open systems and creating neutron generators. Taking part in the symposium are scientists from Russia, the United States, Germany, Japan, Georgia, and Ukraine.

Shaposhnikov Cited on Future Role

PM1706134393 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 1

[Colonel Gennadiy Miranovich report: "Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov: I Will Still Serve the Commonwealth"]

[Text] The 15 June session of the Council of CIS Defense Ministers ended by deciding to abolish the post of commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces and introduce the post of chief of the Joint Staff for the Coordination of Commonwealth Military Cooperation, which has been offered to Colonel General Viktor Samsonov, hitherto Joint Armed Forces chief of staff. What is behind this?

When analyzing the nature of military relations between the components of the CIS of late, one is bound to agree with those who think that the question of transforming the High Command into a different kind of structure to tackle cooperation between them has been raised by life itself. After all, the normal functioning of the Joint Armed Forces is indeed impossible today both in terms of their material and technical backup, and also in the sense of the existence of actual military units and combined units which they are ideally supposed to have at their disposal. This was also reaffirmed by Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov at a meeting with journalists straight after the session of the Council of Defense Ministers.

Analyzing the opportunities for preserving military-political cooperation within the CIS—both those that have been missed and those that still exist—he remarked that efforts in this sphere have not produced the desired result. As you know, the Statute on the High Command of the Joint Armed Forces was signed last July. Plenty has been achieved since then. A concept for the CIS states' military security has been formulated and adopted—a fundamental document in terms of the adoption of their own military doctrines. A decision has been adopted on collective peacekeeping forces in conflict zones on their territory and the decision to set up the Council of Defense Ministers ratified. Committees comprising representatives of the CIS states' military departments are at work. Deputy chiefs of staff of the CIS Joint Armed Forces have been appointed from these departments and are getting down to work. A number of scientific and practical conferences have been held and over 100 documents of various kinds have been adopted, designed to perform the tasks of military integration.

At the same time one must state bitterly, Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov stressed, that the practical implementation of the adopted agreements and decisions is experiencing tremendous difficulties and faltering. The main reason for the prevalence of disintegrational trends in the military sphere, in his opinion, is that we are now seeing a struggle between national consciousness, which was suppressed in the past and has now reached exaggerated proportions, and collapsing imperial ambitions. Representatives of certain Commonwealth states see the High Command's endeavor to integrate defense as a violation of their sovereignty, identifying the High Command with the former USSR Defense Ministry and suspecting it of intending to revive the Soviet Union. While some people reject the system of collective security within the CIS framework they are not averse to creating or joining such a system, but one outside the Commonwealth. Here, too, double standards are employed: Collective security within the CIS supposedly limits sovereignty, whereas joining a different system of collective security does not entail such restrictions. It is quite clear, the marshal of aviation remarked, that we must get over this difficult period and find a civilized means of cooperating in keeping with the new situation—without diktat, without fighting to take the lead, and without mutual mistrust and suspicion.

The Joint Staff for the Coordination of Commonwealth Military Cooperation is designed to play an important role here. The intention is for its structure to be developed with a view to all components of the Commonwealth participating in cooperation rather than just the signatories to the Collective Security Treaty. However, there is still no unified view of the Joint Staff's structure. It is thought that the transitional period—until the end of the year—is enough for it to take shape. The fate of over 300 men working at the High Command must be decided over the same period.

When asked the traditional question about the "nuclear button," Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov replied that for the time being—he was to go to work the following day as secretary of Russia's Security Council—everything will stay the same. In the future this issue will be decided by the heads of state with consideration for existing agreements and the talks held by the Russian, Ukrainian, and Kazakhstani government delegations.

Touching on his new appointment, Yevgeniy Ivanovich remarked that it followed very important preliminary work. In offering him the post of secretary of the Security Council the Russian Federation president coordinated this with the heads of state who were involved in his appointment as commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces. "When I accepted the offer," Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov said, "I acted on the premise that while serving Russia I will still be serving the Commonwealth." In his opinion, while working for Russian national security, he can and should work on ensuring collective security since the dialectic of national and collective security is such that one cannot exist without the other in today's world. Yevgeniy Ivanovich intends to begin his work in his new post by perfecting the concept for Russian national security.

Shaposhnikov Addresses CIS Defense Ministers

PM1706143993 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jun 93 p 1

[Igor Chernyak article: "Last Report Coming..."]

[Text] "One must acknowledge today that CIS Joint Armed Forces do not exist and it is unlikely that they will be set up in the near future," Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, said at yesterday's session of the CIS defense ministers.

At least this was honest, although it is somewhat hard to understand what Yevgeniy Ivanovich has been commanding throughout this period. It is also worthy of note that such a sensational admission was made only after the commander in chief learned of his new appointment as head of the Russian Federation Security Council. Before moving into Yuriy Skokov's office, Shaposhnikov also announced that, despite everything, he would still be paying tremendous attention to problems of military integration in the CIS. Observers predict that he will do everything he can to justify Boris Yeltsin's description of him 12 June: "Yevgeniy Ivanovich is very vigorous and reliable in his support of the policy pursued by the president and the government; I have absolute confidence in him."

One must give credit to Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, he fought like a lion to set up the CIS Joint Armed Forces, indefatigably and furiously. He tirelessly flew around the capitals of the new independent states employing persuasion, pressure, and entreaties. And he did achieve something: The leaders of the six CIS states signed the collective security agreement 15 May last year and the Statute on the High Command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces 6 July. Admittedly, not much came of it. In its year's work the High Command adopted over 100 documents and decisions, but, the marshal now admits, "their practical implementation lacked the proper effectiveness." And that is putting it very mildly. Despite all the High Command's exhortations, the new independent states feverishly set about creating their own armies and their enlisted men and officers swore loyalty to their own homelands without giving a cent for their commander in Moscow and his commands. The principle of razing everything to the ground—a principle with which Shaposhnikov categorically disagrees—prevailed in the CIS. In desperation he even submitted his resignation once, but it was refused.

The commander in chief aroused countless suspicions by his persistence: He was accused of wanting to be like a USSR defense minister, encroaching on the sovereignty and independence of the republics, damaging Russia's interests, and only concerned with "bringing some troops under his jurisdiction." "I was only conscious of a vacuum and an impenetrable wall around me," he admits now.

The fact that Shaposhnikov's idea of transforming the former USSR's armed forces into the CIS Joint Armed Forces has ended in total failure is now an objective reality. However, this is quite understandable. All the CIS states realize the need for military integration and to maintain defense capability, but, for all that, they are obviously afraid of Moscow. That is why some are contemplating a Baltic-Black Sea community, others are gravitating towards NATO, and others are still seeking rich sponsors to help them establish themselves. None of the present-day politicians are attracted by the prospect of once again ending up in the former USSR.

Time will tell whether his forecast comes true. For the time being it has been decided to reorganize the High Command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces into the Joint Staff for the Coordination of Commonwealth Military Cooperation. Colonel General Viktor Samsonov, chief of staff of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, will head the new structure.

Navies Ferry Aid To Stricken Abkhazia Cities

PM1706131193 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1400 GMT 16 Jun 93

[By Arkadiy Melkonyan and Nikolay Postoyalko; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Melkonyan] As has already been reported, the presidents of Russia and Ukraine have decided to send navy warships from Sevastopol to deliver humanitarian aid to the civilian population of Sukhumi and Tkvarcheli. Two large assault landing ships arrived in Sochi last night. One of them—No. 148—was loaded with 30 KamAZ trucks carrying flour, groats, sugar, and medicine. This convoy will subsequently be traveling on to Tkvarcheli. One of the ships was loaded with 214 tonnes of corn meal, buckwheat, semolina, rice, and pasta for Sukhumi. Once loading is complete, the ships will set off for Sukhumi. Our film crew will be going with them. We'll be reporting in a future Novosti about how this major Russian operation under UN auspices went.

Cossack Congress To Be Held 17-18 Jul

LD1706220293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0524 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Styazhkin]

[Excerpts] Stavropol, 17 Jun—A congress of elected representatives of the peoples of the multinational Caucasus region and of the Cossacks of South Russia will be held in Nalchik on 17-18 July. A decision to this effect was adopted at a session in Stavropol of the organizing committee of the congress.

The session of the organizing committee was chaired by Musa Shanibov, the chairman of the confederation of the peoples of Caucasus, and Petr Fedosov, the ataman [chief] of the Stavropol Kray Cossack Union. [passage omitted: background to the congress and its organizing committee]

The congress is being convened in order to ratify an agreement. [passage omitted: generalities about the peaceful purposes of the agreement]

Representatives of Abkhazia, Dagestan, Kabarda-Balkaria, Karachay-Cherkessia, North Ossetia, and Cossacks from the Don, Kuban, Stavropol Kray, and Terek took part in the session of the organizing committee for preparing the regional congress.

CIS Economic Union Faces 'Serious Test'

MK1706121093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 3

[Artur Vardanyan report: "CIS Credit and Financial Problems. Economic Union's Core Has Not Yet Turned Sufficiently Hard"]

[Text] The idea of an economic union of CIS countries is facing its first serious test. Yesterday, in Moscow, the leaders of the Russian Government held bilateral talks with representatives of Kazakhstan and Belarus, which focused on credit and payment settlements. No specific solutions were found, but the sides are intent on continuing the search. Their efforts may result in the preservation of the ruble zone or may trigger the launch of national currencies in Belarus and Kazakhstan.

If yesterday's talks between Russian Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin and Kazakhstani Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko were preplanned, the visit to the Russian capital by Vladimir Zalomay, Belarusian state secretary for relations with the CIS, was prompted by a telegram in which Moscow asked Minsk to make it clear by 1 July whether Belarus will stay in the ruble zone or whether it will introduce its own currency. In effect, both talks were held to discuss one subject: credits and their settlements. This issue is of importance for Russia's relations with all the CIS countries, but it holds particular interest with regard to Belarus and Kazakhstan because these are the countries that, judging from the pronouncements by their top leaders, are to make up the "core" of the CIS economic union on the basis of the ruble zone.

The talks dwelled on matters of the conversion of technical credits into government ones and Russia's granting fresh credits to Belarus and Kazakhstan in 1993. Meanwhile, Russia estimates Kazakhstan's debt for these credits at 300 billion rubles [R] and that of Belarus at R267 billion. The debtors, for their part, offer estimates that are 10-30 percent lower. An even greater gap is evident in the approach to new credits: Almaty has requested an astronomical amount of R4 trillion, and Minsk is willing to put up with R300 to R500 billion. At the same time, both Belarus and Kazakhstan, while technically remaining in the ruble zone, insist that they be given a 10-year grace period for repayment of the credits.

New ruble credits are the centerpiece of the debate. Yesterday, this issue remained unresolved. Probably during the next round of talks a radical solution may be found: Russia would meet its partners' credit requests to such an extent that they would be faced with the need to introduce their own currencies. Russia pursues similar policies with regard to the former republics of the USSR—which are not regarded as the "core" of the economic union—the basic characteristic of which is the retention of the ruble zone. A compromise solution, however, seems more probable, which, strictly speaking, serves Russia's interests to a lesser extent: The credits would be given in the requested amounts on condition that the republics stick with the ruble zone, and the decision on the introduction of national currencies in Belarus and Kazakhstan would be postponed.

While the Russian-Belarusian talks were limited to the subject of credits, the Russian-Kazakhstani meeting got around to considering the oil issue as well. As a result, the fuel and energy ministers, Yuriy Shafranik and Kadyr Baykenov, initialed an agreement setting up a Russian-Kazakhstani company to deal with the prospecting, production, and transportation of Kazakhstani oil. It was also tentatively agreed that the agreement would set quotas for Russian oil exports to Kazakhstan for the second half of 1993.

Energy Ministers Consider Cooperation in Oil, Gas Industry

LD1806094693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0938 GMT 18 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yegor Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, June 18 TASS—The energy ministers of the Commonwealth are to consider the programme of cooperation in oil and gas industry at the meeting of the Intergovernmental Council on Oil and Gas, opening in Tyumen, a city in western Siberia, on Sunday.

"The economic cooperation principles of the member-states of the council are the basis of the programme and will be in the focus during the coming meeting. Equal economic approaches to partners is to be the basic principle in our work", said Vyacheslav Parfenov, the head of the main department of international cooperation of the Russian Fuel and Energy Ministry.

Participants are to discuss mutual payments in roubles, a mechanism of guaranteed payments for deliveries of energy resources and sanctions for violations of the terms. According to Parfenov, the customers can swap industrial goods for energy resources.

The participants will also debate the problem of repaying debts to the Russian oil gas complex.

Fuel Stolen From Baku-Batumi Pipeline

PM1806085393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[POSTFACTUM report: "Thieves Have Made 1,200 Perforations in Oil Pipeline"]

[Text] The Baku-Batumi main oil pipeline, which is considered one of the most unique in Europe in terms of installations and terrain, has been suffering destruction over the past three years.

The pipeline has been perforated in nearly 1,200 places in order to steal fuel and since the start of the year 34,000 tonnes of diesel fuel have been stolen. The oil pipeline workers themselves cannot ensure its safeguarding. The stolen fuel is sold on highways and is exported to Turkey.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 18 Jun

LD1806044793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0441 GMT 18 Jun 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—The constitutional assembly defeats confrontation, the military KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper writes on Friday commenting on the discussion of a new draft constitution. However, it notes that contradictions remain in interpreting various articles of the draft. A working commission which is to eliminate the disagreements will focus on two major contradictions regarding the principles of self-determination and local self-government. The mechanism of adopting the new constitution has not been worked out either, the newspaper stressed.

The Russian Army did not collapse as it was predicted, but preserved its combat spirit and potential, Yevgeniy Vysotskiy, head of the training and personnel department of the Russian Defence Ministry, told the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. Russia must have a strong, well-equipped and mobile army which would meet the demands of the military-political and strategic situation in the world and in the commonwealth, he stressed, adding that one of the major problems is posed by mass resignation of young officers. In 1992 35 thousand officers under the age of 30 left the Army and in the first four months of 1993 a total of 16,000 people followed suit. Vysotskiy admitted that it is impossible to keep the exodus down.

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA publishes an interview with Arkadiy Volskiy, president of the union of industrialists and entrepreneurs who calls for the creation of a tripartite economic union within the commonwealth. "I believe it necessary to support the position of Belarusian Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich and President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev about the creation of the Kazakhstan-Belarus-Russia economic union", he said, adding that the union is to have sovranational management bodies which will not govern the economy, but will only coordinate actions.

The PRAVDA publishes an interview with former Commander-in-Chief of the CIS Unified Armed Forces Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov who was recently appointed head of the Russian Security Council. Shaposhnikov warns against unconditioned borrowing of Western experience by Russia saying that "alien systems of life structure do not suit us". He said Russian relations with other states should be based on such principles as mutual respect, trust and morality. Even if some politicicans undertake unfriendly actions towards Russia they should not be transferred to the existing relations between peoples. It is necessary to look for political solutions and improve the mechanism of interaction of all components of security, he said, explianing that these include defence, foreign policy, economy, intelligence. "They should work as a well-trained orchestra", Shaposhnikov stressed.

Yeltsin, Kravchuk Agree To Share Black Sea Fleet

LD1706130693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1301 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—Presidents Boris Yeltsin and Leonid Kravchuk agreed on Thursday to share the disputed Black Sea Fleet and allow Russia to use Sevastopol as its naval base.

The presidents agreed "to implement accelerated creation of the Russian and the Ukrainian Navies on the basis of the Black Sea Fleet of the former USSR and to base the Russian Navy in Sevastopol and other parts of Ukraine", according to an official communique on the Russian-Ukrainian summit on Thursday.

The presidents signed an agreement on the creation of the two navies which is to be ratified by parliaments.

'Text' of Communique on Meeting

LD1706143093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1352 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—The press service of the president of the Russian Federation has circulated the text of the communique on the meeting between the Russian and Ukrainian presidents:

"The Black Sea Fleet situation was discussed during the working meeting between Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, and Leonid Kravchuk, president of Ukraine, which took place in Moscow on 17 June 1993, and provision was made for the urgent measures aimed at settling the situation. The presidents examined the development of bilateral relations, including conditions for supplying fuel to Ukraine.

"The presidents agreed to effect the accelerated formation of the Navy of the Russian Federation and the Naval Forces of Ukraine from the former Soviet Union's Black Sea Fleet, and on basing the Russian Navy in Sevastopol and other locations in Ukraine. To this end, they have signed an agreement, subject to ratification, between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on urgent measures to form the Russian Navy and the Naval Forces of Ukraine from the Black Sea Fleet.

"It was agreed that both navies would perform coordinated tasks to defend the common interests of security and stability.

"The presidents decided to set up, within a short timeframe, an interstate commission to implement the aforementioned agreement.

"They have instructed the commander of the Black Sea Fleet to ensure implementation of the appropriate agreements on creating the Russian Navy Fleet and Ukraine Navy, and establishing their bases.

"An agreement was reached in principle to appoint military attaches to the embassies of the two sides, in Moscow and Kiev respectively, in accordance with international practice.

"Striving for the further development of all-embracing ties between Russia and Ukraine, the presidents have agreed:

"—To intensify work on a comprehensive political treaty between Russia and Ukraine.

"—To speed up the signing of an agreement on dual citizenship between Russia and Ukraine, for the purpose of which the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two countries are instructeD to carry out appropriate negotiations in the nearest future.

"—To cooperate in solving the fuel and energy questions on mutually beneficial terms.

"A separate agreement will be drafted on jointly selling off to shareholders [aktsionirovaniye] a number of enterprises from Russia and Ukraine, taking into account mutual interests. The sides have agreed on free trade and the establishment of joint enterprises.

"The president of the Russian Federation confirmed Russia's readiness to grant Ukraine security guarantees before Ukraine ratifies the START I Treaty and joins the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the guarantees to come into force after the ratification of these documents by the Ukrainian Parliament.

"The presidents were united in their desire to strengthen friendly, equitable ties of partnership between the Russian Federation and Ukraine and their peoples."

'Text' of Agreement

LD1706173093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1605 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—Here is the text of the agreement between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on urgent measures to form a Russian Navy and a Ukrainian Navy on the basis of the Black Sea Fleet, which has been issued by the Russian president's press service.

"The Russian Federation and Ukraine, striving for a further development of friendly and partnership links between them, guided by the Treaty between the RSFSR and the Ukrainian SSR of 19 November 1990, the agreement between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on the further development of interstate relations of 23 June 1992, and the agreement between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on the principles for forming a Russian Navy and a Ukrainian Navy on the basis of the former USSR's Black Sea Fleet of 3 August 1992, proceeding from the position that in the formation of a Russian Navy and a Ukrainian Navy on the basis of the Black Sea Fleet the sides will interact in the interests of

ensuring the security of the Russian Federation and Ukraine, have agreed on the following:

"Clause 1. Both sides will begin the practical formation of the Russian Navy and the Ukrainian Navy [Voyenno-Morskikh Sil Ukrainy] in September 1993, on the basis of the division of the Black Sea Fleet and the determination of agreed conditions for the basing of the Russian Navy in Ukraine, and will complete this formation within the period determined by the Yalta agreement. In this context, the Fleet will continue to be based jointly for the transition period, as determined by a separate agreement.

"Clause 2. The division of the Black Sea Fleet between the sides will be undertaken according to the following fundamental principles:

"a) formations and units of all arms of force of the Fleet—surface warships, submarines, air forces, shore troops, formations, units, operational, military, technical and logistic facilities, the buildings and equipment assigned to them; arms, munitions, military equipment and other mobile property of the Black Sea Fleet as of the date of signing of a separate agreement on division and the conditions of basing the Russian Navy on Ukrainian territory—are subject to division between the Russian Federation and Ukraine in proportions of 50 percent to 50 percent;

"b) The existing base system of the Black Sea Fleet, on the basis of the Yalta agreement, will continue to be used by the Black Sea Fleet until division;

"c) The Russian side will participate in developing the socioeconomic sphere of the town of Sevastopol and of other populated areas of Ukraine where military units and facilities and establishments belonging to the Russian Navy will be deployed; the Russian Black Sea Fleet and the Ukrainian Navy consider Crimean enterprises as their technical base;

"d) Financing of the Black Sea Fleet until its division will be carried out by the sides in equal parts (50-50); while unified norms and kinds of monetary allowance and compensatory payments are being established for the period until the Black Sea Fleet is divided, and these will be defined by a separate agreement.

"Article 3. Questions concerning social and legal guarantees for and also the dual citizenship of servicemen and the civilian personnel of the Russian Navy, individuals who have been discharged from military service, and members of their families, who are living on the territory of Ukraine, are determined by a separate agreement.

"Article 4. With the aim of addressing the practical problems of dividing the Black Sea Fleet and working out conditions for basing the Russian Navy Fleet and the Ukraine Navy [Voyenno Morskikh Sil Ukrainy] on the basis of the principles and documents mentioned in this agreement, the sides are setting up an interstate commission with equal numbers of their representatives and experts. The individual composition of the Russian and Ukrainian parts of the Commission and the Satute on it are being correspondingly approved by the president of Russia and the president of Ukraine, who will supervise its work.

"Article 5. Proceeding from this agreement, the interstate commission of the Russian Federation and Ukraine will, within a month after this agreement comes to force, work out draft documents which will have to be signed by the presidents of the Russian Federation and Ukraine. The commission will monitor implementation of these documents.

"Article 6. During the transitional period, any unilateral actions by the sides with regard to the Black Sea Fleet as well as the issuing of orders and instructions not emanating from the presidents of the Russian Federation and Ukraine are prohibited. During the same period the commander of the Black Sea fleet will run the fleet in accordance with the powers given him by the presidents of the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

"Article 7. The present agreement is subject to ratification and enters into force from the date that articles of ratification are exchanged.

"Concluded in Moscow on 17 June 1993 in two copies, each in Russian and Ukrainian, with both texts having identical force.

[Signed] "For the Russian Federation—B. Yeltsin

"For Ukraine—L.Kravchuk"

Kravchuk Assesses Agreement

LD1706163593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1603 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By Vladimir Suprun, ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 17 June—"I think that from now on solutions will be found to all the acute questions that have long been clouding our relations," Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk told journalists at the aircraft gangway before leaving for home at the end of his visit to Moscow.

In the words of Leonid Kravchuk, it has at last been possible to solve, to the satisfaction of both sides, the long standing problem of dividing the Black Sea Fleet. "In September we shall begin to divide the fleet into two," he said, adding that the question of the status of Sevastopol was not raised at the talks, since "Sevastopol is a part of the Crimea, and the Crimea is an inalienable part of Ukraine."

On the economic aspects of bilateral relations, Leonid Kravchuk said that Russia "viewed Ukraine's requirements with understanding." In his words, the issues of strategic weapons deployed on Ukrainian territory and the division of the assets and liabilities of the former

Soviet Union were also "settled in principle." Answering an ITAR-TASS correspondent's question on whether a political treaty will be concluded between Ukraine and Russia, Leonid Kravchuk said that "Ukraine will sign an agreement on borders, customs, and dual citizenship on one condition—specifically, that this treaty will note the fact that we have no territorial claims on each other." The president of Ukraine also said that Viktor Chernomyrdin, head of the Russian Government, will come to Kiev on 24 June, where he will meet Ukrainian Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma to sign a package of economic agreements.

Delegations Agree on Free Trade

LD1706114993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1137 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Podyapolskiy]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—The Russian and Ukrainian Government delegations worked out an agreement of free trade during negotiations on Thursday and the document was initialled by deputy prime ministers of both countries, according to Russian Deputy Prime Minister Aleksndr Shokhin who said the agreement will be signed by the prime ministers of Russia and Ukraine "today or tomorrow".

The document allows both countries to refrain from introducing import duties, Shokhin told reporters, adding that without such an agreement Russia had to resort to the measure from July 1 as it had applied for GATT membership.

But Russia and Ukraine stumbled over prices and debt payments for the Russian gas. Still Shokhin said that "a scheme emerged during the talks which is to be developed into concrete results".

"We are not yet close to final figures and documents. We have to wait for the results of negotiations between the presidents and prime ministers", Shokhin said referring to the summit meeting going on in a suburban residence of Boris Yeltsin.

Shokhin added that Ukraine has to offer additional goods and services to Russia to counterbalance the shipments of the Russian gas.

Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Vasiliy Yevtukhov confirmed that the sides had agreed on "the scheme of payments for gas" and added that additional calculations will be made by experts.

Kozyrev Speaks on Results of Talks

LD1706181593 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Statement by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev on 17 June; place not given; from the "Novosti" newscast—live or recorded]

[Text] It must be said that the talks [in Moscow between President Yeltsin and Ukraine President Kravchuk] ended with agreements that mark a real breakthrough, connected first and foremost with ensuring the uninterrupted operation of the Black Sea Fleet itself, including its maritime and land components. That is to say, the fleet remains integral during a transitional period up to the end of 1995, as envisaged at Yalta. Moreover, Russia will help maintain the material and economic infrastructure of the city of Sevastopol. The technical and economic base of the Crimea will be used by the fleet, and accordingly by the two states jointly.

Incidentally, [Nikolay] Bagrov, chairman of the Crimean Supreme Soviet, took part in the talks. The Crimea's interests have thus been taken into account. This morning, in particular, I had a telephone conversation with [Viktor] Semenov, chairman of the Sevastopol city soviet. In short, the agreement takes account of social aspects. In addition, the agreement envisages the joint financing of the servicemen in the Black Sea Fleet.

Second, the agreement designates the principled areas, and the principles, on which there will be further negotiations by state commissions of the two sides under the direct guidance of the presidents as to how the division of the two fleets will proceed at the end of the transitional stage—not into hostile entities, but into ones operating in conjunction.

Dubinin Interviewed on Results

LD1706183593 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Interview with Yuriy Vladmirovich Dubinin, ambassador of the Russian Foreign Ministry and head of the Russian state delegation at the talks with Ukraine by "political observer" Yuliy Semenov; from the "Panorama" program—live]

[Text] [Semenov] Yuriy Vladimirovich, can you hear us?
[Dubinin] Yes.

[Semenov] Yuriy Vladimirovich?
[Dubinin] Yes, yes.

[Semenov] Can you hear us?
[Dubinin] I can hear you.

[Semenov] Well, this is to convince our listeners that we are speaking live.
[Dubinin] Well, that is fine.

[Semenov] Well, I think that you are a pretty well informed man, so we can ask you anything, although we are limited, of course, by the Mayak framework. The first question is as follows: How do you assess the accords between the delegations and the heads of Russia and Ukraine on the Black Sea Fleet?

[Dubinin] As undoubtedly positive. I would like to single out one element in this respect: Agreement has been reached within the framework of the resolution of the

question of the formation of Russia's Navy and Ukraine's Naval Forces agreement and has been reached on basing Russia's Navy in Sevastopol and other Ukrainian ports. I think comment, as they say, is superfluous.

[Semenov] It is not even a matter of leasing, but simply of basing in Sevastopol and other ports?

[Dubinin] Yes, I am providing you with the precise formulation that has been written down and agreed upon at the level of the presidents.

[Semenov] But, concerning the Navy itself, you will be dividing it after all?

[Dubinin] You see, this is also already subject to specific implementation, and additional study of the documents is required to reply to it. But it is a matter of forming, in other words, of dividing the Black Sea Fleet of the former USSR and of forming a Russian Navy in the Black Sea and Ukrainian Naval Forces.

[Semenov] Now, another question connected with the problem of nuclear disarmament: What do the guarantees mean Russia is giving to Ukraine, security guarantees, that, for the time being, are being given, as it were, as an advance prior to the ratification of the treaties on nuclear weapons by Ukraine and that come into effect after the ratification of these treaties?

[Dubinin] Yes, this is an important question, and the presidents confirmed that such guarantees will be given precisely in the context in which you are speaking. This would be the most fully-fledged guarantees of this kind as provided for by international law.

[Semenov] Well, at last, evidently the last question within the framework of our possibilities: How, as a whole, do you assess within the context of the accords, especially taking into account the difficulties concerning fuel and, on the whole, with the entire burden of economic problems between Russia and Ukraine?

[Dubinin] I think that it is a major step forward in the development of Russian-Ukrainian relations. This is for the good both of our countries and our peoples.

[Semenov] And the talks which took place between deputy prime ministers in Moscow also come within the general context of today's talks?

[Dubinin] Undoubtedly these talks were a part of the summit talks and undoubtedly all these elements are interconnected.

[Semenov] As a man who was involved in this work, are you satisfied?

[Dubinin] I think that all of us—the Russian public and the Ukrainian public—have grounds for satisfaction.

[Semenov] But a lot of work still remains to be done?

[Dubinin] A very great deal, a very great deal. But, you know, this is constructive work; this is good work.

[Semenov] And in that we wish you success, you and your Ukrainian colleagues. Thank you.

Black Sea Fleet Commander Wants Unified Command

LD1606214793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 16 Jun 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Correspondent Aleksandr Ostrovskiy] The Black Sea Fleet is probably the most sore point in the mutual relations between Russia and Ukraine today. This is probably the case because the Fleet so manifestly shows the haste, to put it mildly, with which the Slav republics severed themselves from the former Union, starting with people's fates and ending with shipbuilding and the guarding of sea borders.

The weakest navy is already being squeezed out in the Black Sea by Turkish and American ships carrying missile weapons. It may happen that at the end of 1995 when the Fleet is to be shared out, there will no longer be anything to share. Even the flagship cruiser Moskva will probably have already been written off. Today's sailors have an agonizing choice to make—which people should they make their oath to? [Video shows interview with V. Bogdashin, commander of the Moskva cruiser]

[Begin Bogdashin recording] The Fleet's problem can be resolved in two ways. Either it should be a single fleet which all officers, warrant officers and even sailors are in favor of, because the crew doesn't consist of just Russians or Ukrainians. Everyone is serving here. The 20 nationalities which are serving on our cruiser are naturally a pride to their nation, their republic.

It should be a unified fleet because Russia will not fully be able to protect the southern borders since one has to invest very large funds in that; nor can Ukraine do that. If a decision is made, a political decision on dividing up the Fleet, and Ukrainian and Russian fleets are set up, this fleet would not be battle-ready. [end recording]

Efforts To Withdraw Nuclear Arms From Ukraine Welcomed

LD1706185893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1717 GMT 17 Jun 93

[ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Boris Krivoshey]

[Text] Moscow, 17 June—"As things are developing, special importance is being attached to the task of ensuring the continuity and guaranteed status of the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from Ukraine. This would be in the interests of Ukraine, Russia, and all states with an interest in security as we pursue the quest for a further strengthening of the regime of nonproliferation of such weapons," says a Russian Foreign Ministry statement issued today.

The statement says that the United States recently put forward a proposal aimed at getting Ukraine to fulfill as soon as possible the international obligation to remove the nuclear weapons on Ukrainian territory. The Russian side welcomes all efforts to achieve this goal. "We see this initiative as signifying that the United States has accepted its share of responsibility for settling the matter of the nuclear weapons in Ukraine," says the ministry.

Commentary Views Political Situation in Ukraine

PM1706150593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 1

["Our Commentary" under the general heading: "Events in Ukraine Cannot Leave Russia and All CIS Unmarked. Yeltsin-Kravchuk Meeting To Go Ahead Against Backdrop of Growing Strikes in Donbass"]

[Text] An end to the stormy events in Ukraine still lies ahead. One can only guess as to how they will end, but the scale and underlying crux of the events are such that they should hardly be assessed solely in terms of intra-Ukrainian development alone.

What is happening in the Donbass and other regions of Ukraine today also constitutes a kind of warning for Russian politicians: This is what happens when even elementary economic expediency is sacrificed for the sake of an albeit outwardly attractive political idea. No one is opposed to Ukrainian independence. But if this idea is unwarrantedly extolled to such an extent that it ultimately only worsens people's standard of living, what is the point of it all? There is food for thought: Are we in Russia extolling certain political postulates and forgetting about the economy.

There is every indication that major amendments to the Ukrainian leadership's policy are becoming increasingly inevitable. It is, after all, no secret that it is "Ukraine's special position" that has retarded many processes within the CIS. If the emphatically "independent" course that has gone as far as isolationism is replaced by a sensible, well-considered policy aimed at integration and preserving and strengthening the age-old ties with Russia and the other fraternal republics, that may bring a real breakthrough on questions that have seemed simply deadlocked for a long time. This may bring about not only a new kind of Russian-Ukrainian relations, but also a totally new kind of CIS.

Clearly, all these problems will be present during today's scheduled meeting between the Russian and Ukrainian presidents. Officially the meeting is to be devoted to problems of the Black Sea Fleet. But the presidents will hardly be able to concentrate on that alone. Life itself is making it necessary for the whole package of Russian-Ukrainian relations to be put on the agenda and all the specific problems examined in that context.

Leonid Kravchuk, whom, to be blunt, is not to be envied today will seek a chance in Moscow to ensure his political survival. But, whereas the future of Kravchuk the politician is more of a problem for Leonid Makarovich himself and his entourage, the future of Russia and Ukraine and the two fraternal peoples concerns literally each one of us. This is a matter of common pain, common concern, our future.

Primakov Talks With CIA Director Woolsey in U.S.

PM1706153593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 7

[ITAR-TASS report under "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow" rubric: "Russian and U.S. Agents Have Many Common Interests"]

[Text] Yevgeniy Primakov, director of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, and James Woolsey, director of the CIA, have met in the United States.

They examined possibilities for cooperation between the Russian and U.S. intelligence services with regard to problems of the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the struggle against terrorism and illegal drug trafficking.

Intelligence Official on Contacts With Czechs, Arabs

NC1706123893 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 10 Jun 93 p 14

[Interview with Tatanya Samolis, official spokeswoman of Yevgeniy Primakov, head of the Russian intelligence service, by Konstantin Maksimov in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] [Maksimov] What has prompted the head of Russian intelligence to visit a country whose intelligence services have in the past years undergone changes that are unknown to the intelligence services in the other countries of Eastern Europe?

[Samolis] [name as transliterated] This visit has helped restore relations between the Russian and Czech intelligence services. Relations were severed after 1989. This was preceded by a similar visit to Hungary and there are many common denominators for the two visits. In both visits, discussions focused on organizing contacts on an unfamiliar and nonideological basis, that is, organizing contacts on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, and of course, of not harming third countries. Discussions dealt with fields where the two countries' interests converge.

[Maksimov] What are Russia and the Czech Republic's common interests?

[Samolis] The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is the greatest danger facing the world in the wake of the Cold War. We believe that this danger can be confronted through cooperation with other countries, especially the Czech Republic, which is at the heart of Europe and through whose territories criminal gangs

could transport nuclear fuel and the necessary raw material for manufacturing weapons of mass destruction. The Russian and Czech intelligence organs have also agreed on coordinating their action in combating international terrorism.

[Maksimov] Could Russia's intelligence service cooperate with other foreign security organs in other fields?

[Samolis] It is possible to cooperate in launching joint campaigns against organized crime and the drugs mafia. Cooperation that has mutual benefits should develop by taking into account the proposals made by every concerned party. Our main concern is the Russian state's interest.

[Maksimov] How was the head of the Russian intelligence service received in Prague?

[Samolis] The talks that Yevgeniy Primakov held with the Czech interior minister and officials from the parliament, the government, and the Foreign Ministry stressed that the new Czech leadership does not regard modern Russia as an enemy and is willing to cooperate with Moscow in providing international security. The language used by the media organs was generally cordial. But some of them propagated the claims that lists of KGB agents were given to the Czech intelligence service. The fact is that this issue was not discussed and the Czech side did not raise it. Our colleagues are quite aware that the Russian intelligence service has not recruited agents from former socialist countries. It is inappropriate to raise the issue of revealing the sources of the information received by the intelligence service. Neither we nor the professional intelligence people in other countries are demanding this.

[Maksimov] Does the Russian intelligence service have relations with its Arab counterparts?

[Samolis] Cooperation with the Arab world began in the fifties, especially with Egypt. For example, the Soviet security organs helped organize the guards of President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir. Cooperation agreements were also signed with Syria, Algeria, and some other Arab countries in the fifties and sixties. We have contacts with security circles in the various countries from the Arab Gulf to the Atlantic Ocean.

Churkin Tells Tudjman of Support for Vance-Owen Plan

AU1706171593 Zagreb VECERNJI LIST in Serbo-Croatian 6 Jun 93 p 3

[Bogoljub Lacmanovic report: "Key Role of Russia"]

[Text] Moscow—En route to Peking, President Tudjman and members of the Croatian delegation made a short stop at the Moscow airport Seremetjevo last night, where they were met and welcomed by President Yeltsin's personal representative for problems of former Yugoslavia and Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Vitaliy Churkin. President Tudjman was also met by Niko Bezmalinovic, Croatian ambassador to Russia. During the talks which lasted for 50 minutes, President Tudjman and Mr. Churkin exchanged views about a large number of issues concerning former Yugoslavia.

Special emphasis was placed on the problem of Bosnia-Herzegovina and President Tudjman expressed satisfaction that Russia, too, is more and more inclined to think that we should look for the solution in Bosnia in a confederation of the three constituent nations. President Tudjman insisted that the question of the Serbs in Croatia be solved exclusively within the framework of the sovereign and internationally recognized Croatian state.

Vitaliy Churkin expressed satisfaction that President Tudjman, here again in Moscow, repeated that Croatia is ready to have international observers put on the border between Croatia and Bosnia, thus dispelling suspicion that the Croatian Army is participating in the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

After the talks, President Tudjman and Vitaliy Churkin held a press conference at Moscow airport, at which the Croatian president particularly emphasized the positive and objective role of Russian foreign policy in solving the problems of former Yugoslavia. "Russian foreign policy is neither on the side of the Croats nor on the side of the Serbs, and this enables it to have a leading role in solving the crisis," said President Tudjman.

Churkin, on the other hand, expressed hope that Russia will come forward with a new initiative for solving the problems of former Yugoslavia, probably after the meeting of the West European Union in Athens on 11 June. Churkin invited President Tudjman to use his influence in Bonn to have German diplomacy more actively involved in solving the crisis in former Yugoslavia. Answering a question regarding the Russian view about confederation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Churkin said: "We do not reject the idea, but we are extremely cautious about it, and we think that the problem should be solved by implementing the Vance-Owen plan."

President Tudjman flew from Moscow to Novosibirsk last night, and on Sunday [6 June] evening he will continue his journey from there to Peking.

Khasbulatov Said To Drop Ambartsumov From Turkey Visit

MK1706110093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 3

[Sergey Tsekhmistrenko report: "Khasbulatov Turkey Visit. Khasbulatov 'Forgot' To Take Ambartsumov Along"]

[Excerpt] The first session of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Parliamentary Assembly opened in Istanbul yesterday. Taking part in its proceedings is a Russian delegation led by Supreme Soviet Chairman

Ruslan Khasbulatov. According to the original plan, it should also have included Yevgeniy Ambartsumov, head of the foreign relations parliamentary committee. Your KOMMERSANT-DAILY correspondent has learned from reliable sources inside the Russian parliament that he was struck from the list at the last moment "because of political differences with the speaker." [passage omitted]

Russian Official Addresses Black Sea Conference

LD1706203393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1647 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Istanbul June 17 TASS—A conference of foreign ministers from 11 Black Sea Economic Cooperation Countries (BSEC) met in Istanbul on Thursday. Turkish President Suleyman Demirel, opening the conference, said that the economic cooperation between Black Sea countries has become a reality and yielded substantial concrete results last year.

Demirel pointed out that the construction of an organizational structure of the BSEC had been completed and its tasks and principles outlined. The Turkish president called to create "a favourable atmosphere for mutually advantageous multilateral cooperation."

Sergey Lavrov, Russian deputy foreign minister and head of the Russian delegation, addressed the conference, saying that Russia was interested in the BSEC permanent secretariat beginning its work as soon as possible. He pointed out that the development of economic, trade and financial relations in the region would exercise a positive influence on the political situation in this region. He noted the importance of the parliamentary assembly for boosting business cooperation between the Black Sea countries.

Georgian Foreign Minister Aleksandr Chikvaidze called to take steps for strengthening measures of confidence between BSEC countries. In this connection, he suggested setting up a centre for the settlement of conflict situations, which will work in contact with the United Nations and the CSCE.

Shokhin on CIS Countries Using Soviet Property Abroad

LD1706130393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1116 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Podyapolskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jun—Russian Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin said to journalists today that Russia may find ways to let some CIS countries use part of the former USSR property abroad. According to him, a number of countries have already approached the Russian Government with such requests and "these matters can be dealt with individually on the basis of good will on the part of the Russian leadership".

However, Aleksandr Shokhin reiterated Russia's stance to the effect that it alone should bear the responsibility for the debts of the Union and be the only inheritor of its assets. All former USSR republics except Ukraine have signed relevant agreements with Russia on the so-called "zero option."

"We believe that it is in Ukraine's interest to quickly sign an agreement of the "zero option", the vice premier said. Although Russia intends to regularly pay USSR debts, in case of a delay in repayments sanctions will be applied to Ukraine as well, because it remains within the sphere of joint responsibility."

Georgian Delegation Fears Talks May Fail

LD1806094093 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0400 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Talks between representatives of the Republic of Georgia and Gudauta on resolving the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict have been under way for three days in Moscow at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. A representative of the Gudauta side, Yuriy Anchabadze said that the talks were difficult, but the cease-fire agreement might be reached. Gudauta representatives are creating difficulties artificially. For example, Anchabadze himself took placards to the pickets in front of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, where 30-40 people were picketing and flying the Gudauta flag. Answering a question regarding what the Abkhaz pickets' placards said, Anchabadze said he did not know what they said and that he had been asked by the Abkhaz diaspora to deliver the placards.

A member of the talks, a Georgian parliament member, Boris Kakubava said that the talks would probably be unsuccessful as they were being held under the auspices of the Russian Federation.

The Georgian delegation held a news conference at 1600 at the Georgian Embassy in Moscow, where Sandro Kavsadze said that the Georgian leadership wanted to settle the Abkhaz-Georgian conflict peacefully and politically. Georgian Deputy Defense Minister Levan Sharashenidze said that they had information that the Gudauta side was preparing another attack on Sukhumi.

Third Attempt To Relieve Abkhazia Sieges Launched

PM1706114393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 16 Jun 93 p 1

[Report by Aleksandr Golovin and Sergey Ovsiyenko: "Russian State Committee for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters Tries for Third Time To Send Humanitarian Aid to Inhabitants of Ochamchira and Tkvarcheli"]

[Text] "The situation is very difficult," the operations duty officer from the Sochi headquarters of the State

Committee for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters says. The warring sides claim to support the Russian mission, but in fact there are no guarantees for the safety of convoys of vehicles carrying humanitarian aid and refugees through the region where hostilities are taking place. It is the same story as before, when a helicopter carrying sugar and flour was shot down near the besieged cities and the Russian crewmen were killed.

We learned from the headquarters that yesterday 30 KamAZ buses intended for transporting refugees out of Abkhazia were being loaded onto ships from the Black Sea Fleet in the port of Sochi. The whole operation is being directed by Sergey Shoyga, chairman of the State Committee for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters.

This third such attempt to deliver a humanitarian cargo to Ochamchira and Tkvarcheli is unparalleled. There are plans to deliver over 200 tonnes of sugar, flour, groat crops, and medicines and bring back to Russia approximately 3,000 refugees, for the most part Russian speakers.

The operations group at the State Committee for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters includes representatives from the Foreign Ministry, the Security Ministry, the Transport Ministry, the Finance Ministry, and the Federal Migration Service. Russian Council of Ministers Chairman V. Chernomyrdin has granted S. Shoyga considerable powers in order to coordinate the efforts of all these departments.

We managed to get in touch with the Black Sea Fleet commander's apparatus by telephone. They confirmed that a detachment of fleet ships put together by Vice Admiral E. Baltin set off for the Georgian coast 14 June.

For its part, the command of the Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus has dispatched a bridgelayer and other roadway works equipment, as well as specialists to clear mines from bridges and roads in the besieged cities, to assist the operations group from the State Committee for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters.

Georgia's Treatment of Russians To Be Referred to UN, CSCE

PM1706135193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 16 Jun 93 p 2

[Sergey Yakunin report under the "Hot Spots" rubric: "Hostages of Conflict. Position of Russians in Georgia Deteriorates"]

[Text] It has been learned from reliable sources that in the near future the Russian Foreign Ministry intends to take a number of diplomatic steps in the international arena aimed at drawing the attention of the United Nations' and CSCE's human rights departments to numerous cases of the grossest violations of basic human rights which have been recorded in the city of Sukhumi and other Georgian areas in relation to the Russian-speaking inhabitants living there.

The cases of oppression and humiliation and of violence and insults against persons of Russian and other nonindigenous nationalities on territory controlled by Georgian troops, which were revealed as a result of surveys among Russian-speaking inhabitants evacuated from Sukhumi, testify to the lawlessness and legal anarchy being perpetrated there. Russian-speaking inhabitants' apartments and private homes are being robbed, they are being driven out of their own homes, and Georgians are then occupying them.

Lately Sukhumi's military authorities have conducted a campaign of seizing documents from people of Russian, Armenian, and Greek nationality, thereby depriving them of the chance to leave the conflict zone and effectively turning them into hostages.

From 28 March through 1 April mass actions were held in the city of Sukhumi, during which people of Russian and Armenian nationality were identified by their passports. Then, after being taunted, insulted, and beaten, the people held against their will were used to dig trenches and remove corpses from the front line.

There is also reliable data about an intensification of provocative actions by the Georgian special services in relation to the republic's Russian-speaking population. In particular, they are being assembled for meetings and rallies by means of threats and are being forcibly compelled to sign false appeals in defense of the Georgian Republic. In addition, humanitarian aid being delivered from Russia is being sold at an unacceptable price in markets. For the purposes of provocation, the Georgian military are specially stationing their own artillery and mortar units in areas densely populated by Russians.

There are also numerous cases of illegal actions in relation to Russian servicemen and border guards and members of their families. According to Russian Federation Defense Ministry data, in 1992 alone, 52 Russian servicemen were killed and over 100 wounded in Georgia, and 6,388 armed attacks were made on military targets.

All these and other case of violence, insults, murders, and blatant discrimination against Russians are already acquiring a systematic character.

The Russian Federation authorities are actively trying to prevent Russians from being turned into the continuing conflict's collective hostages.

The Russian Foreign Ministry's numerous attempts, aided by diplomatic demarches and protests, to attract the Georgian authorities' attention and force them to take the necessary measures to end such actions have so far led nowhere.

It is becoming increasingly obvious that the Georgian law enforcement organs' passivity and inactivity are practically giving extremists a free hand and encouraging them to commit new crimes against the republic's non-indigenous inhabitants, most of whom are Russians.

Moscow's Role in Karabakh Peace Initiative Viewed

PM1706142993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jun 93 First Edition p 3

[Konstantin Eggert commentary: "Stepanakert Goes Some Way To Meet Demands of International Community"]

[Text] The decision adopted by the leaders of Nagorno-Karabakh to approve the CSCE peace initiative could, given a favorable combination of circumstances, be a turning point in the history of the bloody conflict in the Transcaucasus.

It was not easy for Stepanakert to agree to withdraw its armed formations from Kelbadzharskiy Rayon, which was captured in April. In rejecting in May the tripartite plan proposed by Russia, the United States, and Turkey, the Karabakh leadership demanded guarantees that Azeri troops would not be sent into regions vacated by Armenian units. The initiative, approved by Yerevan and Baku, was wrecked precisely through the fault of Stepanakert.

It became clear at the end of May that Armenia would no longer tolerate intractable Karabakh politicians. Seeking to arrange close ties with Russia and encountering an increasingly favorable attitude from Moscow on the way, President Ter-Petrosyan had to demonstrate his influence over the leaders of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. As he sat down at the negotiating table in Stepanakert, the Armenian president undoubtedly felt the Kremlin's unseen support at his back.

The CSCE plan, which has been accepted with such difficulty, is based on the UN Security Council's April Resolution 822. It proposes a 60-day cease-fire and the warring sides' disengagement under the control of international observers, who will be sent to the regions vacated by Armenian formations. If the cease-fire holds for two months, talks on settling the conflict will be resumed under the auspices of the CSCE Minsk group. According to a high-ranking Russian diplomat, "The task consists in creating a kind of peace inertia."

The chief threat hanging over a settlement in Karabakh today is probably the internal political crisis in Azerbaijan. It is not insignificant that Stepanakert is asking the members of the Minsk group to postpone implementing the peace initiative for one month, until light has been shed on the situation.

Colonel Guseynov's revolt, which has so far been successful, and Geydar Aliyev's return to the political scene have been a consequence of a series of military defeats for the Azerbaijani Army in the Karabakh war. If Russia, which has no particular sympathy for the Elchibey government, really is behind the events of recent days in Azerbaijan (which cannot be ruled out), a possible change of leadership in Baku is perfectly capable of leading to some progress at the peace talks. But as for a long-term solution to the Karabakh problem, at present it seems just as remote as it did a year ago.

Border Guards Monitoring Refugees' Return to Tajikistan

PM1706145793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition p 7

[Vladimir Berezovskiy report: "Tajikistan Receives Refugees"]

[Text] Dushanbe—Tajikistan is gradually recovering following the terrible rains that hit cities and villages at the beginning of May.

Germany, Turkey, the United States, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Belarus have come to its aid. But the most tangible support is from Russia. Food and medicines worth 110 million rubles [R] have already arrived. A further R2 billion will be transferred to restore the national economy.

The mass return has begun of exiles from Afghanistan, where they have spent several months in the most difficult conditions—without medical aid, shelter, or proper sustenance. The main current of people is channeled through the Uzbek city of Termez, where talks devoted to this painful problem were recently held between representatives of Russia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Afghanistan. Some 27,000 people are expected to return to the republic.

Russian border guards together with government troops are taking measures against possible provocations. Several days ago the latest major armed grouping, which was trying to break through into the republic's heartlands by force, was first blocked and then smashed.

Russia Protests to UN Against Discrimination in Estonia

LD1706202593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2013 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[Text] United Nations June 18 TASS—"Estonia has again hampered the process of the normalisation of Russo-Estonian relations," says a statement made by the Russian Foreign Ministry, which was circulated at the U.N. headquarters on Wednesday as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly.

The statement says that "on June 3, 1993 the Estonian president made public a discriminatory law on elections to bodies of local government, adopted by the Estonian

State Assembly on May 19. The law deprives non-Estonian citizens of the right to be elected to these bodies. The move is an unseemly manifestation of arbitrary deprivation of the Russian-speaking population of the Estonian citizenship in February, 1992.

Ethnic Russians in Estonia have been reminded of the fact that they are aliens in Estonia belonging to the one third of the population of the country, whose rights depend on the political situation in parliament."

The statement says that the Russian-speaking population has been denied the right to take part in bodies of local government even in regions where the Russian-speaking population constitutes an absolute majority. "Thus, a new step has been taken increasing national tension and ethnic differences in Estonia," the statement said.

The statement points out that the Estonian leadership "has again displayed neglect of its international commitments undertaken in the treaty of fundamentals of interstate relations with Russia and in the sphere of human rights. The process of the normalisation of Russo-Estonian relations has become more difficult," the statement said.

Estonian Parliament Accused of 'Super-Radical Policies'

LD1706191693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1724 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Yuriy Filipov]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—The Estonian parliament is pursuing super-radical policies aimed at the implementation of the slogan "Estonia—for Estonians only," said members of the Russian parliamentary delegation who ended their visit to Estonia.

Nikolay Medvedev, head of the Russian delegation, said that the Estonian parliament is attempting to legalize the violation of political and economic rights of the non-Estonian population by the endorsement of corresponding legislative acts.

Medvedev said that a law "On Foreigners" recently adopted by the Estonian parliament in the first reading, and a law "On School and Gymnasium" which are being prepared, show that such a legislative policy discriminates a considerable part of the Estonian population, predominantly, the Russian-speaking population, and should be qualified as "direct violation of human rights."

The Russian mp pointed out that Russia cannot remain indifferent to such developments, adding that possibilities for the settlement of the problem by purely political means had been increasingly narrowed. Medvedev said that Russia can apply economic sanctions against Estonia and apply to corresponding international institutions, including the Council of Europe, with Estonia being its member, and the U.N. and csce with a request to prevent the blatant violation of human rights in the country declaring itself to be a democratic state.

Federation Will Appeal Freezing of Luxembourg Accounts

LD1806095593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0944 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—The Russian Government intends to "resolutely dispute" the freezing of Russian accounts in Luxembourg and file a lawsuit against a Swiss company which initiated the decision, according to the press service of Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexandr Shokhin.

It said on Friday that the court of Luxembourg ruled on June 11 without any preliminary notice to freeze the accounts of the Russian Government, the Central Bank and of several other organisations in local banks upon a lawsuit of the Swiss "Noga" company which accused the Russian Government of breaching contracts on financial loans.

"The Russian Government calls in question its indebtedness to the "Noga" company", the press service said, adding that it is the Swiss company which owes Russia a compensation for disrupting agreed supplies which exceeds its claims to the government. "Besides, the "Noga" company did not fulfill several other obligations which inflicted considerable damage", the statement reads.

The Russian Government "is sure that it will not only succeed in cancelling the decision of freezing the accounts, but also win a lawsuit against the "Noga" company which it is ready to file", the press service said.

It added that the "Noga" filed its lawsuit while negotiations on settling mutual claims were still underway. "The government regrets that the company decided to appeal to court rather than to look for a solution of the dispute on a friendly basis", according to the statement.

Gorbachev Interviewed on Swedish Television

PM1706135393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 3

[Report by Marat Zubko: "M. Gorbachev in Stockholm Criticizes Russian Leadership"]

[Text] Stockholm—Former USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, who is in Stockholm, has expressed his disapproval of the way the preparation of the new Constitution is now under way in Russia. In an interview with Swedish television he said:

"Surely they cannot resolve the question with such a cavalry charge when it is a case of the Constitution? We are losing time. Moreover, it is intensifying the split and the political fighting and distracting people. At a time when Russia needs clarity in politics this is what we are

doing. Increasingly I have the suspicion that perhaps our politicians have nothing to say and they do not know what to do next. And that is why they are holding now a referendum, now a Constitutional Conference. I fear they will think up something else."

Television journalist L. Hedberg, who talked with the former president, obviously sensed something illogical in her guest's speech, and asked: "Do you see nothing positive in what is happening in Russia?"

"Why?" came the answer. "Despite everything, Russia in general is advancing in the direction of reforms. But there is a danger here: The scenario according to which events develop further. And that must be decided now..."

The former president warned that a situation could arise in the country whereby the reformers will simply be asked to go. And he added he would not want that. M. Gorbachev also stated that he opposes those who are dragging society backward. "The people will not accept them, but they nonetheless want to speculate on social tension," he stressed.

"If chaos and extensive social tension nonetheless arise in the country, Russia will not be far from dictatorship, the former president believes.

Answering L. Hedberg's questions, M. Gorbachev said that he is constantly taking part in political debate in Russia and that people listen to him. "It is another matter that the authorities are somehow bored when I express these views. They are not very eager for me to take part in these debates. But that is their problem," the former USSR leader noted in concluding the interview.

Beijing Mayor Satisfied With Visit to Moscow

LD1806063293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0622 GMT 18 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Fedoruk]

[Text] Beijing June 18 TASS—Mayor of Beijing Li Qiyan expressed satsifaction with the results of his recent visit to Moscow. "The Russian capital is a huge city, and there is a lot of things residents of Beijing can learn from it," he said in an interview with ITAR-TASS. "In particular, great and interesting experience has been accumulated in Moscow," the mayor said.

During its stay in the Russian capital, a Beijing mayor's office delegation signed a plan of cooperation between Moscow and Beijing for 1993-1994. The plan provides for broadening ties in the spheres of trade and economy and science, as well as city construction, culture, sports, and exchange of specialists between the capitals of the two states. The signing of this document will give a powerful impulse to the strengthening of cooperation between the capitals of the two countries.

Speaking of his stay in Moscow, Li Qiyan noted that Muscovites accorded a warm welcome to the Chinese delegation. "Everywhere we felt affection of Muscovites towards the Chinese people and residents of Beijing. Representatives of the Moscow administration and enterprises spoke highly of reforms and economic achievements in China. [quotation marks as received] The Russians "will overcome temporary difficulties", and Russia will develop at a fast pace, Li Qiyan concluded with confidence.

Economic Cooperation With PRC Set To Gain in Scope

LD1706165893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1438 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Grigoriy Arslanov]

[Text] Beijing June 17 TASS—Russia and China will hold talks every year on regional economic cooperation and cross-border trade, stated the two sides' delegations discussing Russo-Chinese trade and economic cooperation matters in Harbin.

During the talks, the two delegations touched upon matters connected with the transportation of goods between the two countries, exchanges of information on and quality of the supplied merchandise.

The two sides agreed to expedite work to modernise railways linking Russia and China and cooperate in the sphere of container transportation. Agreement was also reached to improve the quality of the supplied merchandise and jointly check whether the merchandise are up to environmental protection and safety standards.

Russo-Chinese talks on regional and cross-border trade were timed for the fourth Harbin international fair. According to the negotiators, last year's rapidly expanding cross-border trade between Russia and China ran at 2,710 million U.S. dollars and in the first three months of the current year the scope of trade doubled as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Poll of Japanese Attitude Toward Russia Cited

PM1806102993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 4

[Report by Sergey Agafonov: "What Japanese Think of Relations with Russia"]

[Text] Tokyo—Japan's biggest newspaper, YOMIURI, has published the figures of a public opinion poll conducted in Japan recently. The subject of the poll was Japanese-Russian relations.

It was no surprise that the majority of Japanese are not delighted with the present level of relations with Russia. Some 50.3 percent defined the state of bilateral affairs as bad and 7.5 percent as very bad. There were considerably fewer optimists—no one said "very good" and only 5.2 percent said "good."

The pattern of public opinion was considerably more interesting as regards the question of the Japanese people's attitude toward the two deferments of Yeltsin's official visit to Tokyo. Some 23 percent of those polled pragmatically regarded the deferments as inevitable and justified them by present Russian political and economic difficulties; 23 percent felt greatly hurt by Yeltsin and refused to trust him, stating that the Russian leader's main aim is not to improve relations between the countries but merely to obtain financial aid from Japan; 25.9 percent chose the answer option which contains no assessment of the reasons for Moscow's actions but contains a description of the events as a violation of diplomatic etiquette; 11.7 percent blamed Yeltsin's nonappearance on the Japanese side, which has been in the wrong for "overdoing it" in its demands on the territorial issue; and a further 4.2 percent also mainly blamed Japanese diplomacy.

The absence of unity in public opinion on the narrow subject of Yeltsin's visit is no accident—in fact, in Japan there is no longer the uniformity which once existed in assessing Russia, nor is there such uniformity as regards the most acute question for bilateral relations—the territorial question—or on the problem of rendering economic aid to the Russian reforms. Only 29.3 percent of those polled stated that first the territorial dispute must be resolved and then that economic contacts should be expanded and aid given to Russia; 16.1 percent agreed that territorial matters must be set aside and the emphasis placed on economic assistance to Russian reforms; 42.6 percent of Japanese are in favor of the parallel development of economic relations and dialogue on territorial matters.

All the above positions predetermine the diversity of replies to the last question—about the prospects of Japanese-Russian relations. Over 30 percent believe that they will improve with time; over 50 percent that they will remain at the same level as now; and nearly 9 percent believe that relations will become worse.

Kurils Issue Not on Yeltsin Japan Visit Agenda

PM1706155693 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 7

[ITAR-TASS report under "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow" rubric: "Japan Refrains Temporarily From Claims to Kurils"]

[Text] The Japanese Government intends to refrain from talking about the territorial problem during Russian President Boris Yeltsin's meeting in Tokyo with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, due in July within the framework of the conference of leaders of the seven leading industrially developed countries.

As all leading Tokyo newspapers have reported, citing official sources, this was stated Tuesday by Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Koichiro Matsuura during talks in Moscow with Boris Yeltsin.

'Important Questions' Unanswered on KAL-007

PM1706133793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jun 93 First Edition pp 1, 3

[Aleksandr Shalnev report: "ICAO Has Concluded Investigation Into Loss of South Korean Boeing"]

[Text] Montreal-Washington—"The Soviet side failed to make exhaustive efforts to identify the intruding aircraft, although it was clearly left in some doubt as to who owned it."

This is one of the main conclusions of the report prepared on the results of the investigation conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization [ICAO] into the circumstances of the tragedy of the South Korean Boeing 747 shot down over Sakhalin on the night of 31 August-1 September 1983. On Monday the ICAO Council published a report of many hundreds of pages plus appendixes, emphasizing in an accompanying resolution that "the investigation into the facts is complete."

The report's authors have quite a simple explanation for the fact that our side—i.e. the fighter pilot who downed the Boeing and the command post on Sakhalin—failed to properly identify the passenger aircraft: "The time factor assumed decisive significance when the intruding aircraft threatened to leave the airspace over Sakhalin."

That is, if there had been a few more minutes to spare, the tragedy might not have happened. But ICAO experts believe that the Soviet side took KAL-007 for a U.S. PC-135 reconnaissance aircraft.

In principle, the report holds no one chiefly responsible for what happened: neither us, nor the Americans, who failed to notice the Boeing when it entered the closed buffer zone between Alaska and Kamchatka, nor the Japanese, whose military radar got a fix on the Korean aircraft but did not determine who owned it, nor the Koreans, including the KAL-007 crew.

The report emphasizes that "no data were discovered during the investigation to attest that the aircraft crew knew at any moment that they were off the planned course, even despite the fact that the deviation occurred over five hours." From the viewpoint of the report's authors, all this time "the aircraft was being flown on automatic pilot." ICAO believes that the crew "did not even know that fighter-interceptors were on the scene."

In assessing the results of the investigation concluding the ICAO analysis of the circumstances of the tragedy, begun in the fall of 1983 but virtually sabotaged both by us and by other sides involved in the tragedy in one way or another, you have to bear in mind that this time ICAO was pleased with the full and productive cooperation provided to its experts by Moscow, Washington, Tokyo, and Seoul. "Our specialists," I was told Monday at the ICAO headquarters in Montreal, "were provided with all the documents and materials that it was possible to provide, including, naturally, the recordings from the Boeing's 'black boxes.' All the materials were checked, to

ensure that there was no doubt that they were genuine and not forgeries." In particular, "a comprehensive assessment was made of the physical characteristics of the 'black boxes' magnetic tapes and also of the information recorded on them for the purpose of securing guarantees that they contain genuine data."

Even though the ICAO has concluded the investigation into the tragedy, many important questions have still gone unanswered, including the question of what happened to the bodies of the dead passengers and crew. Nor is it at all clear why the very experienced Boeing crew, which was led by a former South Korean Air Force pilot, had no idea even about the course deviation or why they did not wonder during the five-hour flight from Anchorage how the automatic pilot was behaving.

Maybe some things will become somewhat clearer when it has been possible to analyze in detail the whole report and, most importantly, all its appendixes, which contain a colossal amount of information.

Commentary Views Problems With Western Aid

LD1706205393 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1810 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Announcer-read commentary by Viktor Yenikeyev]

[Excerpts] The House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress has passed a bill assigning $9 billion 300 million for foreign aid in 1994; $904 million has been assigned to the former Soviet republics. Of this sum, Russia will get just a little over 700 million. Viktor Yenikeyev has written the following:

[Passage omitted] When one speaks of aid, the recipient must always be ready to thank the other side for caring about his future. Citizens of the former Soviet Union have heard a lot about the billions the West is ready to give to help the market reforms, but fail to see any consequences of this aid in their everyday life. The trouble is not only the absence of proper legislation and the general confusion and bureaucracy in the newly independent states. There is no well thought-out mechanism for distributing Western aid. No wonder U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen has blamed the director of the International Monetary Fund, Michel Campdessus, for the delay in issuing money to Russia.

Despite all this, it's possible to understand common people living in the West when they don't want to give money for the reforms in the former Soviet Union. It will be an exaggeration to say that it is the West that is bringing democracy to the Commonwealth states.

According to Senator Patrick Leahy from the United States, American taxpayers spend $700 a year to help the citizens of Israel; they spend only $3.50 to help Russians.

Economists and sober analysts have already realized that neither the United States nor their allies have money enough to help all the independent states to overcome economic crises. Only the people themselves can make their lives better and happier. But it is impossible to understand why the Western countries, being so generous on the one hand, are carrying out discriminatory policies towards Russia and the other Commonwealth states.

According to the Vice Premier Boris Fedorov, only in the United States there are about 200 rules and laws left after the Cold War, including the notorious Jackson-Vanik amendment and many others of the kind when the relations between the East and West remained rather strained. Experts believe that the abolition of these laws and Russia's success on world markets as an equal member would make it possible for it to find the money for the reforms it needs.

It's a tricky situation now. On the one hand, the West is peddling, on the other it's braking. One can't get very far in this way.

Constitutional Issues

Yeltsin, Zorkin Discuss Conference Results

LD1606200693 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] The RIA news agency has learned that after the plenary session of the Constitutinal Conference on 16 June, Russian President Boris Yeltsin met Chairman of the Constitutional Court Valeriy Zorkin. The results of the first stage of the conference and the Constitutional Court's participation in preparing the Russian Constitution were discussed.

Constitution, Decentralization To Be Linked

LD1806090393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0755 GMT 18 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow 18 Jun—Prior to his departure for Yakutsk, Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin stated that the new constitution will be linked to decentralization and regions will have more rights.

Talking to reporters, Yeltsin said he was satisfied with the progress of the Constitutional Conference at the present stage, adding that defining the procedure for adopting the Basic Law would present certain difficulties. He had a talk on this matter with Valeriy Zorkin, the chairman of the Constitutional Court, on the day before. More specifically, they discussed legal ways to adopt the constitution, bypassing the congress of people's deputies. Yeltsin said that Zorkin had asked to be given three days to discuss this with members of the Constitutional Court and prepare their recommendations on the matter.

Speaking on the talks he had with Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, Yeltsin said that they had discussed issues relating to the Black Sea Fleet, nuclear arms, and CIS and bilateral relations. Yeltsin is pleased with the agreement on the Black Sea Fleet. He said the fleet will be divided into two equal parts, including bases, airfields and the infrastructure. Yeltsin said that Russian and Ukrainian cooperation in protecting the sea borders in the south and the joint use of bases during the transitional period has been envisaged.

An understanding on nuclear arms has been reached at the talks. Yeltsin said that Kiev is going to ratify the START I treaty.

Shakhray on Formula for Republics' Rights

LD1706134693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1332 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—Representatives of bodies of state power, members of the working group of the Constitutional Assembly, have unanimously adopted a formula to the effect that all subjects of the Russian Federation are fully equal in relations with federal bodies, Russian Vice-Premier Sergey Shakhray said at a news conference today [17 June]. He pointed out that it is necessary to preserve what republics gained in the framework of the federal treaty as part of the Russian Federation.

Members of the working group came out for the equality of citizens no matter wherever they are, and for the single economic space. The constitution should guarantee "a minimum standard" of rights, duties and freedoms of citizens, which is not be lowered by subjects of the federation," Shakhray said. [quotation marks as received]

The majority of regions and districts claim no such attributes of a state as citizenship, a constitution and a system of top bodies of power, Shakhray pointed out.

The majority of the group believe that the constitution should consist of the fundamental law and a federal treaty with the law being decisive in the event of controversies, they believe that during a transitional period from a unitarian to a federal state, the upper parliament chamber should consist of top officials of republics, regions and districts. In perspective, both chambers should be elected by secret ballot.

Shakhray believes that the constitution should leave a list of the subjects of the federation intact, including Tatarstan and the Chechen Republic. Shakhray expressed the hope that while finalizing a chapter on a federal system, a formula would be enacted, envisaging that a specific status of a subject of the federation can be established by constitutions of the Russian Federation and the republic, a treaty on mutual delegation of powers and the delimitation of the subjects of authority. As regards prospects for relations with the Chechen Republic, Shakhray voiced the opinion that "we shall reach an agreement".

Unveils Constitutional Plan

MK1806100093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No 26, 18 Jun 93 (signed to press 17 Jun 93) p 2

[Dmitriy Volkov report under the "Federation" rubric: "Shakhray Finds 'The Golden Mean' of Federalism. Regions To Put Their Hallmark on it"]

[Text] Sergey Shakhray said yesterday that his protracted talks with the regions' leaders resulted in a compromise. This compromise represents "the golden mean" between extreme demands of one side that a unitary state be reestablished and equally extreme pressure by the other side for going over to a confederative arrangement. The compromise calls, first, for equating the rights of the republics and oblasts in their relations with the federal authorities while at the same time enshrining in the future constitution the republics' sovereignty as states within the Russian Federation. Second, the upper

chamber of the future Federal Assembly is planned to be created not as a directly representative body, but as an assembly of the nobility of sorts.

According to the plan, the chiefs of the regions' administrations and legislatures will be ex-officio members of the chamber. The president, accordingly, will not be entitled to dissolve this chamber in the event of a constitutional crisis. The chamber's functions, however, will include neither lawmaking as such nor participation in forming a Cabinet of Ministers. It will effectively exercise supervision over the activity of the lower chamber. The latter—the State Duma—will engage in normal parliamentary work, approving the head of government nominated by the president, among other things. This is why the president will be given the right to dissolve it. The Duma will make laws on its own, which will come into force automatically unless the president or the upper chamber impose their veto.

The regions' direct representation in the upper chamber "for them to be able to establish a direct communication link with Russia," as Shakhray put it, will be limited to a "transition period." After this period, which has not yet been strictly defined, we can get back to a more democratic system of holding direct elections to the upper chamber in regional districts, Shakhray reckons.

The compromise with the regions proposed by Sergey Shakhray also provides that the Constitution will be divided into two equal parts—the Fundamental Law proper and the Federation Treaty—and will also provide room for maneuver in relations with intransigent republics, such as Tatarstan. To achieve this aim, bilateral treaties between Moscow and, say, Kazan will have the status of supplements to the Constitution.

In order to establish himself as the leader of regional politics, Sergey Shakhray announced that he planned to set up an organization called the Party for Russian Unity and Accord, which would include the leaders of regional structures. The "party" will be created, Shakhray said, after the regions's authorities also give their support to the idea.

Although the deputy prime minister said at Thursday's press conference that he was expressing a stance agreed upon with the regions, there are no direct signs proving the regions' unanimous approval of the plan. Nor is there any confidence that Shakhray's plan will be embraced by all the players in the Kremlin.

Officials Assess Results of Conference

LD1606192993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1754 GMT 16 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow, June 16 (TASS)—"Today, there is sunshine and a constitution, peace and accord," said Chairman of the Russian Constitutional Court Valeriy Zorkin, describing the atmosphere among participants in a plenary session of the Constitutional Conference held in the Kremlin.

"One cannot let one branch of power devour the other," said Viktor Luchin, member of the Consitutional Court. He noted that looking for reconciliation and each other's encouragement is in the interests of the whole society, adding that this chance had not yet been lost. This opinion is shared by the majority of members of the Russian Constitutional Court. Otherwise, "those who cannot work and live in accord might be reelected", Lichin said.

First vice-premier of the Russian Government, Vladimir Shumeyko, expressed satisfaction with the constitutional process as well. As a member of a working commission, making a single draft of the constitution, he noted with irony that amendments made to the presidential draft had not made it any worse yet, adding that there had been some improvements. "At least, this does not refer to those amendments which have been discussed by the working commission," he said.

Sergey Stepashin, chairman of the Russian Parliamentary Committee for Issues of Defence and Security, believes that the constitutional process has accelerated. He told ITAR-TASS that the committee adopted a resolution that an expert conclusion and concrete proposals be made as amendments to the new constitution.

"This is one of the forms of the participation of members of parliament in the process," he said. He expressed the hope that "there will be enough common sense not to convene a parallel constitutional conference." In his opinion, instead, one should get involved in the working out of a single draft of the constitution which can be submitted to the consideration by the parliament and the Congress of People's Deputies.

"The congress should be given a chance to complete the work by adopting a new constitution," Stepashin said.

Further Official Reaction

LD1706224293

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1800 GMT on 17 June broadcasts the "How Are We To Organize Russia?" program. In the program, political observer Georgiy Dolgov makes an attempt to analyze the first results of the work of the Constitutional Conference.

The program begins with an excerpt from Yeltsin's address to the conference yesterday. Participants in the conference are shown interviewed in the corridors. Among those interviewed are Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakray. He says: "I am satisfied with the way our group is working. Despite heated clashes on individual issues, from the first day we managed to work out a certain code of honor and rules of behavior whereby nobody descends into political debate and insulting opponents. How did we manage to achieve this? From

the very beginning we resolved the most important issue—we are not pushing through the presidential draft constitution and we are not trying to turn down any proposals. We are creating a new text. We compare articles from the presidential draft and the constitutional commission's draft and amendments and choose what is best. We define our position, accept something as a basis, discuss amendments, and make a decision. Moreover, if it is not possible to do this immediately, we involve experts, vote in principle, and go back. That is, we worked out a certain approach."

Next Deputy Prime Minister Y. Yarov is interviewed. He says: "People have come here with a desire to work and indeed to work out a draft constitution that will meet their aspirations and thoughts. They have come here themselves, and it is very important that all of them are working with enthusiasm."

Mikhail Fedotov, minister for press and information, is interviewed next. He says: "For many people the Constitutional Conference means hope—a sign and symbol of hope, a symbol of possible stability and peace. The way this Constitutional Conference was being set up bears witness to the fact that the president and the government and all organizations that agreed to participate and wanted to participate in the Constitutional Conference are trying to achieve namely these things—stability and peace, that is the salvation of our state, salvation from separatism, salvation from disintegration of the economy, and salvation from disintegration of the legal system. I think this is a very important result of the Constitutional Conference—a revealed desire to achieve stability and accord. Also, it was an opportunity which was revealed here to discuss the text of the constitution by nonconfrontational means. It has proved possible to find common ground providing there is a wish. It is very important for me that this Constitutional Conference did take place and that representatives of various political movements and parties, members of the constitutional commission, ministers, representatives of the president, entrepreneurs, and representatives of religious confessions attended it. All gathered together and all jointly began to seek ways out of the constitutional crisis. Are not these the representatives of all the people?"

Other speakers—Gavriil Popov, chairman of the Democratic Reforms Movement; academician Aleksandr Yakovlev; Galina Starovoytova; lawyer Andrey Makarov and others—go on to express satisfaction with the conference proceedings.

Dolgov concludes the program by saying that, unlike the Supreme Soviet, the Constitutional Conference demonstrated that civic accord could be achieved in society.

Working Group's Progress Viewed

PM1806120993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

["Constitutional Conference" report by Andrey Sharapov: "Yet Another 'Rapid' Referendum?"]

[Text] A plenary session of the Constitutional Conference participants took place in the Kremlin on the afternoon of 16 June. In the morning all five groups continued to discuss amendments. Some of the conference participants acquainted journalists with their view of topical constitutional issues.

For instance, representatives of the "Soldiers' Mothers of Russia" movement were trying at the conference to secure the abolition of the universal military service obligation. Conservative party leader Lev Ubozhko, pursuing the thesis that there is no democracy in the country as yet, while soviet power, equivalent to communist power, is criminal, called for all talk about legitimacy to be abandoned.

This issue was touched on by Fedor Burlatskiy, member of the political parties section: There exists the idea of giving the Constitutional Conference legitimacy through a "rapid referendum," which could be held in July; but a number of parties have put forward the idea of electing a new parliament in the fall and of transferring to it the right to approve the Constitution.

Meanwhile, the work continued in the groups. In the representatives of federal bodies of authority section amendments were adopted to the effect that the Federation Council will accept the government's resignation by a two-thirds majority, but if the resignation is not accepted, the president has the right to disband the Federation Council.

The representatives of the Federation components' bodies of state authority made 83 changes to the article, the gist of which is that when the president is unable to perform his duties they will be performed temporarily by the chairman of the State Duma, and, if that is impossible, by the chairman of the government.

The president can be removed by both chambers of the Federal Assembly only if charged with state treason, with a breach of the Constutition that undermines the constitutional system and diminishes human rights and freedoms, with a breach of his oath, or with the commission of a serious crime, the charge having been made by the State Duma and confirmed by the Constitutional Court.

The representatives of local self-government replaced the term "national-territorial entities [obrazovaniya]" with "national-territorial units [yedinitsy]." During the discussion of the chapter on local self-government it was proposed that references to the Federal Treaty should be abandoned and that the Federal Treaty and the Constitution should not be mentioned on an equal footing.

The group of representatives of political parties and public organizations turned down an amendment on introducing the institution of vice president and confirmed once again its decision that the president is the head of the executive authority. There was a debate on the question of who should be given the job of making the appointment to the top state post—Duma or Federal Assembly. The upshot was that an amendment to the

effect that the president makes appointments on agreement with the State Duma was passed.

The section of representatives of commodity producers and entrepreneurs rejected the idea of creating a Supreme Judicial Office, describing it as a "harmful, undemocratic, and artificial body." There was much criticism from entrepreneurs of the existing system of local self-government, described as the "worst form of socialism" and "ennobled ochlocracy." They proposed that the Constitution make a clear distinction between the jurisdiction of local self-government and that of local authority bodies, mark the legislative limits of local self-government activities, and ensure that no local taxes or local ethnic division can occur.

Yeltsin Seen in Danger of 'Bargaining' Too Much

MK1806090093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No 26, 18 Jun 93 (signed to press 17 Jun) p 2

[Sergey Parkhomenko commentary under general headline: "Boris Yeltsin Postpones Recognition of Russian Autonomies' Sovereignty. The President's Statement Is More Reassuring Than Possible Results of the Conference," under "Circumstances" rubric: "Yeltsin's Legislative Puppet Suddenly Comes to Life"]

[Text] The theme of the "machine riot," portrayed by Capek's "Rur" and which quickly turned into a memorable subject of modern world literature, has unexpectedly become a central one in the constitutional process, which has received a strong impetus from President Yeltsin. The most substantial result of the first round of the Constitutional Conference in the Kremlin is apparently the fact that the new assembly has decisively and forcefully intervened as an independent actor on the Russian political scene, breaking the boring process of traditional conflicts marked by endless, obtrusive recurrences and self-repetitions and recently even acquiring a vaudeville-like character. Two conflicts at a time, and what is especially noteworthy is this: not only the standoff between the legislative and the executive branches in the republic (this could well have been foreseen), but also confrontation between the Center and the Federation's periphery.

President Yeltsin's plan from the very start was fairly transparent and in the first stages of advancing, developing, and implementing the initiative of convening a Constitutional Conference it was carried out systematically and predictably. The administration intended to create—and has apparently done so—an easily controllable collegiate body with an assured distribution of votes in its favor, which would gradually, step by step, wrest from the hard-line deputy corps its legislative powers. By the end of the first stage of this delicate operation, however, the "shadow parliament," hitherto obedient to Yeltsin, suddenly refused to obey.

The walls of the Kremlin's marble hall must not have seen, ever since pre-Gorbachev plenary Central Committee sessions, such a grotesquely muscular style of conducting a session as that which was demonstrated by the Russian Federation president, who crammed the Constitutional Conference plenary session into 25 minutes. However, there should be no particular illusions: His decision was firmly predetermined by the events that started to unfold at the beginning of this week in the process of consultations within the working groups. And the scandal over the two paragraphs that disappeared from the text of the conceptual statement on the constitution at the last moment was already a foregone conclusion.

The fact is that the Constitutional Conference, as represented by at least three of its working groups, gave Boris Yeltsin to understand that it regards as immoderate his generosity displayed in the protracted bargaining with the leadership of the Russian Federation republics. The position of the president, who is trying at the price of redistributing the powers between the center and the Federation components to buy a more reliable and decisive support in his struggle with parliament, was deemed too extravagant. And a fairly definite limit of possible concessions was indicated to him.

It is quite natural that the wasting away of federal prerogatives was opposed especially vigorously by the group of political parties and also by the faction of entrepreneurs and commodity producers. Anatoliy Sobchak, coordinator of the former, has long ceased to make a secret of his pessimism over the possibility of coming to terms with the "autonomies which are ready to die fighting for their privileges." Vladimir Shumeyko, coordinator of the latter, while speaking at a news conference came out with even more candid remarks: "Many entrepreneurs in their hearts are constitutional monarchists. They would like to create a unitary state without any customs barriers so that goods and capital could circulate freely...." And from the rostrum of the previous plenary session he declared, on behalf of his entire group: "Our state is, of course, federal but integral and indivisible. There can be no treaty-based relations with anybody...."

It is not hard to surmise that the working group of federal power bodies also does not approve of the over-long handing out of sugar doughnuts to the autonomies—although the president with his own hands has created, with representatives of the administration and reformist-minded deputies elected in the two capitals, a numerical superiority over the deputies representing the periphery, ready to follow the orders of the republics' leaders (for the most part yesterday's party functionaries).

The distribution of forces within this group is especially noteworthy also in that it includes most of the influential figures from the president's closest entourage and from the Kremlin's purely administrative services who have received delegates' credentials to the constitutional conference. From conversation with some of them—members of the presidential council of the last, final convocation—SEGODNYA's correspondent understood that the situation is becoming not too pleasant for

Yeltsin even within the holiest of holies of his apparatus. Even the president's closest associates are openly talking about his "blind hatred" toward opponents in the White House which makes him "not stop short of paying any price" in search of allies to fight them. It is even being said that the president "has gone too far," that he "is bargaining too long and may soon bargain everything away" in the negotiations with the autonomies. And finally there were satisfied admissions that at the last moment, "thank God, those two paragraphs from the program statement were dropped."

If this antagonistic mood takes root in the presidential team and if tomorrow it does not become clear that there is simply nothing behind it except some malcontents and sheer vanity, then there will be no doubts left: By allowing the constitutional "machine" to mutiny, Boris Yeltsin has fundamentally changed the pattern of confrontation in the upper echelons in Russia. And it yet remains to be seen who has been put in greater jeopardy as a result of this change.

'Rapprochement' on Constitution Possible

PM1806091793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 16 Jun 93 p 2

[Lyubov Tsukanova article: "How To Save Face..."]

[Text] President Yeltsin kept the promise he gave on the opening day of the Constitutional Conference to hold one more plenary session so that everyone who wanted to make a speech could do so, principally Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov. However, the head of parliament was unable to take advantage of this opportunity: He was feeling a little under the weather. According to the official version, his illness was brought on by chronic nervous exhaustion. It is not being ruled out that the last straw was a report that the conference intended to let Nikolay Ryabov, the speaker's deputy and main rival in the parliament, deliver a report.

The Supreme Soviet found it very difficult to formulate a decision to send Ruslan Khasbulatov back to the Constitutional Conference. Parliament is split. For a long time there has been a sharp divide between Yeltsin's supporters and his critics, but recently, owing to the president's constitutional initiatives, the dividing line has passed through the so-called parliamentary majority, which still unanimously supports the speaker but is now showing an equivocal attitude to some of his assessments regarding the place and role of the Constitutional Conference and the deputy corps' participation in it.

This equivocation is to a considerable extent due to the inconsistency of Ruslan Khasbulatov himself. One cannot fail to note that the head of parliament has recently "lost face," as they used to say: The inconsistency of his statements has become so noticeable that the image of the "iron speaker" is wavering in the eyes of his supporters. It must be said that this image was formed at a time when the Supreme Soviet held the initiative and the presidential team and the government were fighting with their backs to the wall. Since the referendum, whose results came as a surprise to the Supreme Soviet, Boris Yeltsin has taken the initiative. And it seems that responding to an initiative is a far more subtle art form than making the running. Neither the chairman nor the majority of deputies was ready to go onto the "defensive." Hence the initial and lengthy confusion and inability to make a decision on participating in the Constitutional Conference initiated by the president, hence the absurd business about mounting the rostrum 5 June, hence the differences in opinion about whether or not to return to the conference. For many deputies this is not simply an issue of "saving face," but something more significant: Is the legislative organ still an equal participant in the constitutional process or has it, in the words of Yevgeniy Ambartsumov, "fallen hopelessly behind the train."

The same dilemma faces Ruslan Khasbulatov. He has stressed on many occasions during his recent speeches that there should be a legislator at the head of the constitutional process. But in fact, owing to the Congress' loss of a sense of reality and the slowing pace of work on the new fundamental law, the initiative is increasingly slipping away. Hence the speaker is flailing around, on the one hand making statements that the "presidential" Constitutional Conference is absolutely illegal while on the other clearly expressing his willingness to take part in it. Hence on the one hand the sharp criticism of the presidential draft constitution, and on the other the acknowledgment that many of its provisions "undoubtedly deserve to be studied closely."

From this standpoint the head of parliament's failure to participate in the plenary session on 10 June, whatever his reasons for not doing so, may be regarded as a diplomatic move as well. First, this course of action looks neither like a lack of regard for the will of the Supreme Soviet, which had given the speaker appropriate powers, nor like an overt challenge to the president. Second, it has allowed him to avoid a possible exacerbation of the "Constitutional Conference-Supreme Soviet" conflict, if we bear in mind that Ruslan Khasbulatov would have to repeat the polemical points in the speech he did not deliver 5 June. Moreover, considerable weight has been placed on the speech by Constitutional Commission Executive Secretary Oleg Rumyantsev, who is not so bound by political convention and has much greater "freedom of maneuver" in the movement toward compromise.

Rumyantsev has suggested a new idea for the operation of the constitutional process. Having issued a reminder that the Supreme Soviet has already held a working conference on its own draft constitution and formulated an agreed version of the new fundamental law taking into account the president's draft, he proposed setting up a joint working group after 16 June to "draw together" the two prepared versions—the version formulated by the Constitutional Conference and the version prepared by the Constitutional Commission. If this does not work, the group can at least reach agreement on the basic

principles of a future constitution (Oleg Rumyantsev named 10 such principles). Specifically, he suggested that the possibility of holding simultaneous parliamentary and presidential elections in spring 1994 should be discussed as a means of overcoming the political crisis. In his opinion, agreement on this matter could be concluded by 30 June and the results could be submitted jointly to the November Congress of People's Deputies.

Whether or not this idea will be developed further, only time will tell. Typically, Boris Yeltsin has reacted to it by proposing to set up intersection groups with the participation of the Constitutional Commission—which modifies the idea expressed by Oleg Rumyantsev but does not reject it. It could be that we are witnessing the first **real** attempt to bring together the two sides in the constitutional process. Such a rapprochement is possible if the desire to "save face" is henceforth channeled into constructive proposals rather than political demarches.

Regional Soviets Give Views on Conference

PM1606143393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Jun 93 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Regional Stances": "Representative Power Demands Democracy"]

[Text] **Saratov Oblast**

The Inner Soviet of the Saratov Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies has adopted a decision noting that the stance of the Russian president at the Constitutional Conference and that of the executive in the center and in the localities are openly geared to ignoring and eliminating representative power as such, and, in its embodiment, the people's power as a whole.

It was deemed necessary to make amendments to the standing orders for the work of the Constitutional Conference, stipulating that official representatives of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet and Constitutional Commission should be given the opportunity to read co-reports, that it should be made possible to freely discuss the problems of constitutional reform proposed in various drafts of the new constitution, and that the proposals of the conference should be registered officially and sent for examination by the constitutional organs of state power, including the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet and the Russian Federation Congress of People's Deputies.

The powers of Oblast Soviet Chairman N.S. Makarevich have been suspended at the Constitutional Conference until the aforementioned questions are settled.

Ivanovo Oblast

Participants in a conference of chairmen of the oblast's rayon and city soviets of people's deputies condemned instances of unworthy attitudes to representatives of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet on the first day of the Constitutional Conference's work. The general opinion was that representatives of the oblast should continue their work in the Constitutional Conference.

Tula Oblast

Participants in a conference of chairmen of the oblast soviet's standing committees and commissions condemned the incident in which the chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet was denied leave to speak at the first plenary sitting of the Constitutional Conference. As for the work of the oblast's representatives in the Constitutional Conference, their activity there should continue.

Tambov Oblast

A conference of chairmen of the oblast's rayon and city soviets of people's deputies was held with the participation of editors of rayon and city newspapers. The participants in the conference condemned the discriminatory actions carried out in respect of the chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

Nenets Autonomous Okrug

Deputies at all levels and chairmen of rayon soviets of people's deputies spoke in favor of the need for the continued participation of the okrug's representatives in the work of the Constitutional Conference, as well as a more democratic approach to the discussion of the draft new Russian Federation Constitution.

Vologda Oblast

At their conference, the chairmen of the oblast's rayon and city soviets did not reach a common opinion in assessing the work of the Constitutional Conference. It was proposed that an assessment be given of the conference after it has concluded its work.

Amur Oblast

Bearing in mind the Russian Federation president's unilateral and illegal actions, which ruled out the possibility of a normal discussion of the draft new Constitution, the Inner Soviet of the Amur Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies has adopted a decision to propose to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet that measures be adopted to ensure the simultaneous examination of the Constitution drafts.

The representatives of the oblast soviet participating in the Constitutional Conference were recalled until the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet adopts a decision.

Kemerovo Oblast

There was no discussion of the work of the Constitutional Conference at the session of the oblast soviet, although the question was on the agenda. The deputies were indifferent to it, to put it mildly.

Hence the appropriate decision: "The adoption of the new Russian Federation Constitution should promote accord in civil society... the basic provisions of the Federation Treaty were not developed in the proposed drafts... the active participation of components of the Federation in the constitutional process is deemed essential.

Karelia's Chairman Stepanov on Conference

PM1706150393 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 2

[Interview with V.N. Stepanov, chairman of the Republic of Karelia Supreme Soviet, by N. Garifullina; place and date not given: "Behind Closed Doors"]

[Text] "Behind closed doors"—that was precisely how the television report portrayed the 15 June meeting between Russian President Yeltsin and the heads of the republics belonging to the Russian Federation. The journalists, apparently, were asked to leave the hall and the meeting took place behind closed doors. But what did the presidents and Supreme Soviet chairmen talk about?

There was nothing at this meeting that was secret or "off the record," V.N. Stepanov, chairman of the Republic of Karelia Supreme Soviet, said in conversation with me. The meeting examined the course of the constitutional conference and in principle those problems which emerged during its work and which had to be agreed on. In addition a draft statement was prepared in the groups—it is to be presented to the plenary session 18 June.

[Garifullina] What can you tell us about the Constitutional Conference itself?

[Stepanov] To be frank, the whole time has been spent on drafting. For example, in our group—the components of the Federation of which I was coordinator—no single draft was adopted as a basis. It was all decided by vote. Sometimes the concept of an article was adopted as a whole, sometimes by agreement the content of the two drafts—the Constitutional Commission's and the president's—was taken into account. There may be different attitudes toward the Constitutional Conference but those people who wanted to work did so. You could defend your position—it was all down to the supporting argument used and the composition of the participants. The republics unambiguously said that the Federation Treaty should be implemented in full.

[Garifullina] Has the Constitutional Conference examined the draft soviet constitution by People's Deputy Yuriy Slobodkin?

[Stepanov] No, it has not, although many people were in possession of this draft. But Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, has repeatedly talked about it—in the press and in parliament. On 15 June Khasbulatov chaired a conference of chairmen of soviets of republics, krays, and oblasts and recalled that over 1 million signatures had already been collected for a referendum on the draft soviet constitution and no one has the right to ignore this fact.

[Garifullina] Incidentally, on the subject of Slobodkin... The president said for all to hear that a large proportion of the people who left the conference 5 June then returned, including Yuriy Maksimovich Slobodkin. As the president said here, Deputy Slobodkin's inviolability came into conflict with the president's inviolability, but Yuriy Maksimovich has come back and is still working... Yuriy Maksimovich himself categorically denies this...

[Stepanov] I personally have not seen Slobodkin at the Constitutional Conference. As for the chairmen of the soviets... Some came back, others returned to their regions because business will not wait, you know. Many came to the plenary conference.

[Garifullina] What kind of republic is the composite draft which resulted from the amendments at the Constitutional Conference aimed at? What are you preparing for us? A presidential republic or a parliamentary republic?

[Stepanov] Right now one thing is clear: Strong presidential power is being established, or to be more precise the president is being given great powers. But we are also examining the president's powers and this question is by no means of least importance.

[Garifullina] Do you think that the final version will be examined, as promised, at a plenary session of the Constitutional Conference 26 June and that initialing of it will then begin?

[Stepanov] Even then I am convinced that the final word belongs to society. The draft must be seen and discussed by the citizens of the country, soviets of people's deputies at all levels, experts and specialists in various fields. Let the people have their say on this draft. Otherwise I think there can be no talk of initialing the draft.

Altay Leaders on Conference at Halfway Stage

PM1706140193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Jun 93 First Edition p 2

[Interview with D.I. Tabayev, deputy chairman of the Republic of Altay Supreme Soviet, and P.G. Prokopenko, chief of the Justice Administration, by unnamed correspondent in Moscow on 13 June: "Being Without Russia Is Unthinkable"]

[Text] A ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA correspondent met on Sunday [13 June] with the Altay representatives at the Constitutional Conference—Daniil Ivanovich Tabayev, deputy chairman of the Republic of Altay Supreme Soviet, and Petr Georgiyevich Prokopenko, chief of the Justice Administration.

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] Daniil Ivanovich, your delegation did not leave the Constitutional Conference following the well-known incident on 5 June. Was this due to your Supreme Soviet's special position?

Not at all. The Altay Republic's position on the fundamental questions of the constitutional process is perfectly clear and is no different from the general position of soviets at all levels. I will just read to you the key points of the Altay Republic Supreme Soviet session decisions adopted on 1 June, on the eve of the conference. "Haste in preparing the draft Constitution and its adoption by unconstitutional means are deemed unacceptable. The imposition of either of the two drafts is also deemed unacceptable." The decision clearly states the need for a single, agreed draft on the basis of integration of the presidential and parliamentary versions and given free and equal participation in it by representatives of the executive and legislative authorities, all members of the Russian Federation, and other interested forces. I would emphasize that the session's decision gives priority to the Constitutional Commission, elected by the first Congress of Russian People's Deputies, as the sole body responsible for preparing the draft and proposes that in order to enhance its status it should include representatives from each member of the Federation. As you can see, our position is pretty principled. [Tabayev ends]

"So is our position on what happened on the first day of the conference," P.G. Prokopenko said, joining in the conversation. "We were just as angry about what unfolded before our very eyes as those who left the conference along with Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov. If the president is really serious about his dedication to accord, he should sit down alongside both the Supreme Soviet chairman and the Constitutional Court chairman. I am absolutely convinced this is necessary. Why did we stay? Judge for yourself: If everyone had gotten up and left, would it have done the soviets themselves any good? The remaining representatives of the soviets are very vigorously pursuing their own line at the conference, and that is to their credit."

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] But the most fundamental questions are yet to be addressed, for example the question of the mechanism of federal relations, don't you think, Daniil Ivanovich?

[Tabayev] That is the big issue for the Altay Republic. I will tell you an amazing thing. Altay possesses rich deposits of gold and mercury, but, believe it or not, we have no inkling of the extent of gold mining in the republic! What does this indicate? We are not the master in our own home. And this cannot go on much longer...

Actually the Altay tribes were the first people to announce their wish to voluntarily join Russia. That was in 1756. Even now being without Russia is unthinkable. But give us the right to decide our own destiny. Why is the federal government trying to impose on us? We have nothing but mountains, so why do we absolutely have to introduce private ownership of land? We want to handle our own natural resources. We are prepared to unswervingly observe federal laws, but on condition that the center treats our republic's laws with respect.

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] Are you aware of any discrimination at the Constitutional Conference?

"Certainly not," P.G. Prokopenko replied. "We are working on an equal basis with everyone. We are doing a great deal of work, not with one, but with two drafts, taking the best from both."

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] But you have not yet addressed the main issues. For instance, the question of delimiting powers, which is the fundamental question for the president. Which draft will you opt for in this case?

[Prokopenko] Our position is clear on this question too: None of the three branches of authority should be above the others. A strict balance must be established among all the authorities.

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] A final question: What brought about the decision to take a break after 16 June? Was it that the conference had overrun, or something else?

[Prokopenko] Difficult to say. Of course, the deadline for completion of work on the draft was set arbitrarily. That is perfectly obvious. There turned out to be more work than expected. We have barely reached the half-way point, having not gotten to grips with the main sections of the draft Constitution, which we talked about before.

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] So we have only had the blossom so far?

[Prokopenko] Absolutely. The fruit is yet to come.

Political Issues

Yeltsin Removes Rutskoy From Navy Day Preparations

LD1706161793 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1200 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has removed Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy from position of a coordinator of preparations for celebration of the 300-year anniversary of the Russian Navy.

Roundup of Cabinet Members' Activities

PM1706132793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 16 Jun 93 p 1

[Unattributed feature: "Executive Branch: Monitoring"]

[Excerpts] **Government's Working Day**

Your ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI correspondent was informed at the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government Press Service that Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin spent yesterday partly at Staraya Ploshchad and partly at the Kremlin. Between 0830 and 0930 hours Viktor Chernomyrdin worked in his office

checking through documents. Later on he had his usual working meeting with the president. At 1200 hours the premier took part in the heads of administration conference together with Boris Yeltsin.

First Vice Premier Oleg Lobov held a collegium session at the Ministry of the Economy.

First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets participated in the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet session.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin is taking part in the work of the Constitutional Conference. In the evening he received a delegation of representatives from Kazakhstan. They discussed issues to do with trade and economic relations between Russia and Kazakhstan, including the problem of mutual payments for deliveries and Russian state credit to Kazakhstan.

Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays held a conference of workers from territorial property and property fund management committees.

First Vice Premier Vladimir Shumeyko and Vice Premiers Yuriy Yarov and Sergey Shakhray are working full time at the Constitutional Conference, where they are coordinating groups' work.

Vice Premier Boris Fedorov held working talks with Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister K. Matsuhura, during which they discussed various aspects of the preparations for the G-7 meeting in Tokyo and the Russian delegation's participation in it.

Conferences

The latest session of the Commission on Organizing Sowing Work was held 15 June under the guidance of Russian Federation Government Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha. Agriculture Minister Viktor Khlystun reported on the final stage of spring work in the fields. He also briefed those attending on the villagers' preparations for gathering in the harvest and procuring feed. Deputy Finance Minister Aleksey Krasnopivtsev gave an account of the financial situation facing enterprises in the agro-industrial complex and the terms for advancing them loans.

Privatization

July will be a crucial month as regards the holding of interregional check auctions. This was announced by Vladimir Gusakov, deputy chief of the Russian Federal Property Fund Securities Department, at a meeting organized by the "Moscow Real Estate" check privatization fund with the participation of the State Committee for the Management of State Property and the Russian Federal Property Fund. To date about a dozen interregional check auctions have been held in which the application centers were located in a number of different regions. The largest of these were the ZIL and Uralmash auctions. Stock exchanges will conduct interregional auctions. It is intended to put major industrial installations up for auction.

Remarks

"Despite the fact that Russia has switched to a unified ruble-dollar exchange rate, subsidies for imports received as government credits are continuing," Foreign Economic Relations Minister Sergey Glazyev stated. "Today, however, these subsidies are going through the budget, which impacts on the deficit; this was not the case formerly."

According to S. Glazyev, the Russian Government has opted for a policy of discontinuing the use of subsidies, and it is expected that by the end of the year this system will be completely dismantled. [passage omitted]

The uncontrolled price hikes for energy sources up to world levels means that some production facilities and sectors of Russian industry will have to shut down because they cannot compete. This was announced by Russian Federation First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets Tuesday at an enlarged session of the parliamentary Committee for Industry and the Power Industry during a discussion of the state program for industrial policy over the transition period.

In particular, O. Soskovets believes, Russia's metallurgical industry will turn out to be totally uncompetitive; this sector currently manufactures about 90 percent of the construction materials used by domestic industry. With the price of energy sources being increased to world levels, "we will have to supply production facilities with imported construction materials," the vice premier stressed.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin believes that the transportation problem could become a "bottleneck" in the development of Russia's export potential. At the opening of an international conference on improving the Russian Federation's transportation and road complex on Tuesday in Moscow, he said that owing to the collapse of economic ties with the former USSR republics, Russia should concentrate primarily on its own transportation ports when resolving export problems.

Speaking about the prospects for Russian cooperation with international financial institutions in the sphere of transportation, the vice premier said that the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development has already prepared projects in the spheres of air, sea, railroad, and road transportation. Most of these projects have already been examined by the government and received approval, he announced. According to him, these programs will be linked with the credit lines that are being offered to Russia. [passage omitted]

More on Officials' Activities

PM1706151793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Executive Branch: Monitoring"]

[Excerpts] **Meetings**

[passage omitted] The meeting between the Russian president and Russian regional administration heads took place on a mutual initiative because many painful questions had accumulated, an ITAR-TASS correspondent was told by Yegor Stroyev, head of Orlov Oblast Administration. Local leaders confirmed that they favor the deepening of reforms in society "for the good of the people and of strengthening Russian unity."

The main problem which was discussed was the economy and the unification of all political forces to develop it. Specific proposals on economic actions were made in the dialogue with the president, specifically on central Russia's social reorganization. [passage omitted]

Government's Working Day

Most government members spent the second half of yesterday at a plenary session of the Constitutional Conference, while in the morning head of government Viktor Chernomyrdin, First Vice Premier Vladimir Shumeyko, and Vice Premiers Yuriy Yarov and Sergey Shakhray also continued work in the Constitutional Conference groups of which they are in charge.

First Vice Premier Oleg Lobov held a conference on questions concerning the structural reorganization of Zelenograd City's industry.

First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets met with V. Pavlyukov, director of Saratov Refrigerator Plant.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin held a session of the Commission for Humanitarian and Technical Aid. He met with a Kazakhstan Government delegation and held a news conference devoted to the upcoming G-7 meeting in Tokyo.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha visited an exhibition entitled "Technology and Equipment for the Food and Processing Industry."

Vice Premier Boris Fedorov, after holding a news conference at the Slavyanskaya Hotel, where he familiarized the assembled journalists with the featurs of the current Russian Government's policy, also headed for the Constitutional Conference.

Documents

Government Chairman Viktor Chernomyrdin signed a decree "On Elaborating a Socioeconomic Development Forecast and Comprehensive Measures for State Regulation of the Russian Federation Economy for 1994." Under this document, in the very near future the executive branch's central organs must make a comprehensive analysis of the state of affairs in the national economy's sectors, in regions, and at enterprises and organizations irrespective of their organizational and legal forms, and on the basis of the results of this analysis they must elaborate proposals on measures for state regulation of the economy with the necessary calculations and explanatory documents.

With the aim of stabilizing Maritime Kray's economic and social development and taking account of its special geopolitical location, the Russian Government has adopted a decree in accordance with which a number of measures to give this region support have been defined.

Shakhray To Ensure Support for Heads of Republics Council

PM1806103593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA/ITAR-TASS report: "Heads of Republics Become Closer"]

[Text] It has become known that President B. Yeltsin has issued a directive "On Urgent Measures To Ensure the Activity of the Council of Heads of Republics."

Under the directive Vice Premier Sergey Shakhray, chairman of the State Committee for Federation and National Affairs, is charged with the coordination and direct leadership of a working group. Information and analytical support for the Council of Heads of Republics will be provided by its secretariat and the State Committee for Federation and National Affairs' central apparatus. And material-technical and organizational support will be provided by the president's administration.

Prosecutor Stepankov on Interethnic Relations

MK1706114093 Moscow FEDERATSIYA in Russian No 66, 17 Jun 93 (signed to press 16 Jun) p 2

[Interview with Valentin Stepankov, Russian Federation general prosecutor, with unidentified correspondent; place and date not given: "Interethnic Relations, a Delicate Matter"]

[Text] [FEDERATSIYA] Valentin Georgiyevich, information has "leaked" into the press that during your meeting with the president he said that, in his opinion, the prosecuting bodies are not decisive enough in cutting short attempts by certain individuals to foment national strife. Is the General Prosecutor's Office not letting this area out of control?

[Stepankov] No, it is not. Over the last three years prosecuting bodies have opened 33 criminal cases into instances of violation of ethnic equality. Suffice it to say that up until recently the article in the criminal code carrying liability for this kind of crime has never been applied, and that from year to year there has been a blank space in statistical reports on the number of such cases. Virtually no prosecutor's checkups on these matters have been held. Recently, however, several thousand such inspections have been carried out, with many challenges and presentations made. In order to intensify oversight of the implementation of laws on interethnic relations a special subdivision has been created in the apparatus of the Russian General Prosecutor's Office. We are strengthening the services dealing with these

matters at the local level with qualified cadre, intensifying oversight of the work conducted there and so forth. The president, however, is absolutely right. The prosecuting bodies as well as other law enforcement bodies and related departments are not always decisive and principled enough in fighting this evil.

[FEDERATSIYA] So, has anybody been prosecuted for fomenting interethnic strife, in particular for anti-Russian actions?

[Stepankov] The prosecutor's office at present is investigating more than 15 criminal cases of fomentation of national animosity. On some of them, investigating procedures have been completed and they have been sent to courts or are ready to be sent there. Thus, the prosecutor's office in Buryatia has completed investigation of a criminal case against N. Pinoyev and referred it to court. The man was apprehended and later arrested for making and disseminating in Ulan Ude leaflets containing the following appeals: "Russians, Get Out of Buryatia!" and "Buryatia for the Buryats!"

A similar instance occurred in Khakasia. Except that there it was not a case of leaflets pasted furtively, at night, on the walls of buildings, but involved official statements being made—to the public. V. Ivandayev, chairman of the Chen-Chobi People's Front, not only came out with an offensive anti-Russian speech at a routine session of the Khakass people, but also followed up on the main theses of his statement in provocative speeches on radio and TV.

The Abakan prosecutor's office has rightly deemed Ivandayev's actions as criminal and as directed toward violating ethnic equality, and has initiated criminal proceedings against him.

There are instances of fomentation of interethnic animosity not only with regard to Russians but also to other ethnic groups living in a particular ethnic region. Thus, the prosecutor's office in the town of Uray in the Khanty-Mansi autonomous okrug is investigating a case following the publication in the newspaper MANSI MAA of materials aimed against Russians and representatives of the Khanty ethnic group. Not only has "big brother" once again been made a scapegoat, but even the Mansi have quarreled with the Khanty over something.... An upsurge of ethnic awareness is a delicate matter, and in our conditions, with our conflicting history and nationalities policy of the past decade, it is really an explosion. You know, targeted explosions are used in the mining industry. One gets the impression that some radically minded leaders of nationalist movements are orienting themselves not so much toward reviving national historical and cultural traditions and national identity, but are trying to "target" this explosion against "big brother" or against representatives of other nationalities traditionally living on this territory.

[FEDERATSIYA] Could you give more examples of the prosecuting bodies' reaction to violations of legislation on interethnic relations, especially when these occur on the part of press publications?

[Stepankov] Before citing these examples, I would like to point out that with respect to such offenses the prosecutor's office applies measures involving criminal liability only as a last resort—usually, after other preventive measures have failed to take effect. We would like the Press and Information Ministry, which is in charge of overseeing observance of the media law, to play a more active role here.

At present, prosecuting bodies have initiated criminal proceedings and are investigating several criminal cases following publications' violation of the law on interethnic relations in the newspapers DEN, RUSSKIY KLICH, MOSKOVSKIY TRAKTIR, RUSSKIYE VEDOMOSTI, NARODNOYE DELO, and others. NARODNOYE DELO editor Andreyev and his associate Belyayev have been arrested. The prosecutor's office of Zlatoust in Chelyabinsk Oblast has also referred to court a criminal case against NAKANUNE editor Kostomin and his deputy Pavlov.

Investigation has been completed into criminal cases opened against RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE's editor Batogov, who openly propagated fascist ideas, and PULS TUSHINA's editor Fomichev. The Batogov case has been sent to court and the Fomin case has been put on hold pending his recovery from illness.

[FEDERATSIYA] Looking for the culprits of troubles and misfortunes among other nationalities and preaching national exclusiveness, it might be very easy to go outside this circle in search for "enemies of the people"....

[Stepankov] Yes, this danger is there. Therefore, while positively assessing the revival of Russian statehood, traditions, and customs, the restoration of its own identity, and truly patriotic movements, prosecuting officers cannot ignore the fact that various extremist elements and political intriguers are joining this process for their own selfish needs, spreading discord among the people and discrediting the process itself.

[FEDERATSIYA] Have the corresponding services of other states been asking the Russian prosecutor's office to react to violations of laws committed by mass media organizations in the sphere of interethnic relations? If so, how has the prosecutor's office responded to such requests?

[Stepankov] Yes, there have been such requests and we have reacted in line with Russian laws.

Not so long ago our colleagues from Armenia and Ukraine addressed us. They spoke about gross violations of laws that envision liability for fomenting national discord. Thus, in its 1992 issue No. 32, DEN published an article under the headline "The Routing of the 7th Guards Army," which asserts that a group of Armenians has committed acts of human sacrifice, corruption of

minors, and so forth, which, according to the Armenian general prosecutor, was not corroborated in the course of a subsequent check.

Other statements and appeals are coming to prosecuting bodies concerning publications in DEN, which, in the opinion of their authors, are aimed at provoking national discord. In this connection the prosecutor's office has started criminal proceedings and decided to invite experts to study all of the newspaper's issues for 1992 and to give them a legal appraisal.

It would seem that normal legal actions were taken. But it is very difficult to implement them: The laws are imperfect, while experts capable of giving a professional assessment of a particular nationalist action are few and far between. After all, we have only had "friendship of the peoples" and therefore there was no need for experts on "hatred among peoples." At present specialists from institutes attached to the Academy of Sciences have been entrusted with carrying out an appraisal of DEN publications. Depending on their conclusion, corresponding measures will be taken.

[FEDERATSIYA] What is producing an especially negative impact on an effective fight against violations of national equality?

[Stepankov] First of all, I would like to point to instances, far from unique, of over-long and nonobjective consideration of such cases in some courts. Moreover, it is very rare that anyone would openly admit that he does not want to spoil relations with certain nationalist forces (and, naturally, they exist in Khakassia, and in Buryatia, and in Dagestan, and in a number of other regions in Russia).

Here is another example: Back in 1991 the criminal case against N.P. Pinoyev on charges of production and dissemination of leaflets fomenting national strife (I spoke about it earlier) was sent to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Buryatia. It was not until eight months later that it was considered by a court, which passed an unwarranted decision: to return the case for additional investigation. Following a protest from the republic's prosecutor, the judicial collegium on criminal affairs on the Russian Federation Supreme Court rescinded the decision of the Supreme Court of Buryatia. The case was sent for a new court examination. And only in April 1993 was Pinoyev convicted and given a suspended 18-month sentence.

Unfortunately, there are not a few such instances when courts "shelve" cases concerning the fomenting of national strife. Not only in Russia's ethnic regions. Here is the example of V.N. Bezverkhiy, chairman of the Volkhv cooperative enterprise. This case has already been reported in the press. The cooperative published Hitler's Mein Kampf. Criminal procedures were started and after a requisite investigation the case was sent to court. But the St. Petersburg city court passed.... an acquittal, reasoning that the defendant allegedly did not share the views of the author whose book he had published but because of his popularity in certain circles, and that he did so exclusively to make a profit. And therefore this does not constitute a criminal act. He did not provoke interethnic discord, and he did not publish fascist appeals—he was simply earning his living. A purely commercial undertaking. The prosecutor's office challenged this judgment. The Russian Federation Supreme Court judicial collegium on criminal affairs, however, rejected the challenge of the St. Petersburg prosecutor, agreeing with the acquittal. The General Procurator's Office has studied the case, and I regard the position of the St. Petersburg prosecutor's office as absolutely correct. Therefore I intend to challenge this decision.

Most often, sluggishness and red tape are attributed to the complicated and conflicting nature of cases being sent to courts. Yes, there is some difficulty here. I have spoken about it earlier. But it needs to be understood: Unless we stop our "national disagreements" now; if further development of a multi-ethnic Russia proceeds not along the path of rapprochement, a search for mutually respectful dialogue and cooperation—economic and cultural, vital and mutually beneficial—but along the path of looking for an enemy, the preservation of the "big brother" and "little brother" complexes, and the rise of radical, chauvinist feelings—we shall not be able to salvage Russia. It could perish not even as a result of political or economic disintegration, but under the debris caused by the explosions of interethnic conflicts.

Number of Missing Persons Increases in Russia

PM1806082993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[INTERFAX report: "Number of Missing Persons Increases"]

[Text] In the first three months of 1993 some 31,700 people went missing in Russia. Subsequently the internal affairs organs managed to find about 13,500 of them, over half of them alive.

This was announced at a Moscow briefing by Vasiliy Ilchenko, deputy section chief of the Russian Federation Internal Affairs Ministry main criminal investigation administration. He said that on average about 70,000 people a year go missing in Russia, 14,000 of them remaining untraced. Searches continue for 15 years, after which they stop. According to V. Ilchenko, over one third of missing persons consist of young girls and women aged 14-24.

Economic & Military Issues

Deputy Prime Minister Soskovets on Industrial Policy

LD1706221593 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1445 GMT 17 Jun 93

[From the "Parliamentary Hour" program]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] At an expanded session of the committee for industry and power industry, government industrial policy was examined. Assessing the state of the economy and the work of the government, First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets said:

[Begin recording] [Soskovets] For a long time we have been disrupting the whole industrial complex—or rather destroying it. For example, lack of investment in metallurgy and engineering, say, has thrown us back approximately twenty years during the last ten years; let us say, back to where we were. Back to where we were. To assess today the capabilities and competitiveness of our enterprises with enterprises with which we try to compare them, with our Western partners, is simply impossible. To find the mechanisms for raising investment activity is now the government's main task, in my view. If we find the means to increase our financial resources and opportunities, our opportunities for providing credits for investment, for giving such investments priority, then we will be talking about the realization of industrial policy. At the moment we are talking about more of our plans. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Energy Minister Announces New Conservation Measures

LD1806104393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1027 GMT 18 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondenet Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—The Russian government approved on Friday [18 June] a programme of energy-saving measures until the year 2000.

It is planned to ensure annual increase in fuel savings of 35-40 million tonnes of comparison fuel by 1991 and raise the figure to 200-220 million tonnes in 2000 compared to 1990.

Russian Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Shafranik told the government that growing fuel consumption is a reason for the economic crisis. Industrial enterprises have consumed 30 per cent more energy over the last two years without increasing their output, the energy consumption of the gross national product is rapidly increasing as well, he said.

Shafranik said that every third tonne of fuel in the country is used irrationally and the industrial slump did not decrease energy consumpion. The unused potental of savings in energy resources in russia is estimated at 450-500 million tonnes of comparison fuel a year.

The minister proposed to introduce the most severe sanctions for irrational use of fuel in the second half of 1993 which would force enterprises to start thinking about reequipment.

Coal, Gas Prices To Double in Immediate Future

PM1706125193 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jun 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Prices Liberalized"]

[Text] Coal and gas prices will rise in the near future by a factor of 2.5 and 2 respectively. BIZNES-TASS learned this from trustworthy sources. It is envisaged that coal prices will be fully liberalized in certain regions. The Ministry of Fuel and Energy has been directed to draft proposals for the all-out liberalization of coal prices in 1994.

Report on Progress of Conversion in Defense Industry

LD1706142693 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1955 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] What is the defense branch of industry—a branch of industry which until not so long ago was one of our most secret—doing today? This video material today tells of conversion in the directorate for rocket-space technology.

[Unidentified correspondent] The rocket-space branch is part of the Russian Federation Committee for the Defense Branches of Industry and has traditionally dealt with the creation of rocket and space technology for military use as well as for civilian purposes. All piloted launches of space craft, communications and navigation satellites remain the tasks of the committee's Directorate for Rocket-Space Technology. At the same time, long before the beginning of the conversion process was announced officially, this branch began work on creating products for the civilian market. To be precise: refrigerators, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, trams, syringes and needles for various purposes, processing equipment for the agro-industrial complex and the textiles and chemicals industries.

Since the beginning of conversion, like the majority of other defense branches of industry, a number of enterprises within the rocket and space complex were placed in quite a difficult situation. Defense orders, on average, went down by more than 50 percent and at some enterprises by as much as 85-90 percent. Nevertheless, by 1991 civilian production reached 41.5 percent and military production 58 percent.

As for 1992, the volume of civilian and military production comprised respectively 80.3 and 19.7 percent, as a result of additional reserves being brought into play. So, civilian production more than doubled over previous years.

At the beginning of 1992, the directorate suceeded in creating a single, all-embracing program for the development of the branch of industry up to 1995. This defined eight priority sectors. A characteristic of the program was that all the sectors were headed by a chief designer in general combat research. He became the chief designer

of a new directorate of conversion at the same time. What has this achieved? [video cuts to show Yu.Kulagin, deputy chief of the Main Directorate for Rocket-Space Technology of the Russian State Committee for the Defense Branches of Industry, speaking to camera]

[Kulagin] First, it has enabled us to have a united approach toward the resolution of tasks relating to both military technology and to civilian production. The same people, the same technology, the same organizational form of administration for all of these matters, the same director, the same heads of sections, the same specialists. So the main task is to create quality goods. This was our main task in the military sphere and the same methods have been transferred to civilian production.

[Correspondent] According to forecasts by managers in this branch of industry, the program—with the help of the 72 defense enterprises which have been brought in to carry out the tasks of conversion—will make it possible to organize the production of around 400 new civilian products by 1995, to create around 220,000 extra jobs, and to retrain people so that they can carry out civilian rather than military tasks. There are rocket specialists at any time. Those who want to have always sought a way to help solve any task and this is no less important today, including in the sphere of conversion.

Supreme Soviet

Statement Says Positions on Constitution 'Closer'

LD1706162493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1604 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—The press service of the Russian parliament on Thursday [17 June] circulated the text of a statement signed as of June 17 by 48 leaders of representative power bodies of the subjects of the Russian Federation who took part in the Constitution Conference.

The statement, addressed to the president of the Russian Federation, the parliament, and participants in the Constitutional Conference, is stating that positions on constitution reform problems have drawn closer together.

"We believe that many constitutional principles and legal norms, worked out and formulated at the conference, should be included in a new constitution of Russia," the authors of the statement point out.

"However, the effectiveness of the Constitutional Conference could be higher at the concluding stage if conditions are created for the work of representative of federal power bodies. We express confidence that legislative or constituent powers will not be given to the conference", the statement said.

Reaffirming their position on the need to prepare a single coordinated text of a draft new constitution, the leaders of representatives bodies suggest setting up a joint working group from among representatives of federal power bodies and authorities of the subjects of the federation on a parity basis to finalise the work on a draft constitution of the Russian Federation.

The authors of the statement expressed confidence that the status of Russia as an integrated and indivisible federative state, consisting of subjects of the federation, whose powers have been defined by the federative treaty, should be sealed in a new constitution.

The statement conveyed a demand that "the bodies of government by the people in the form of councils of people's deputies be kept intact", that a draft new constitution be initialled by the parliaments of the republics that are part of the Russian Federation, by the councils of people's deputies of territories, regions, autonomous regions and districts, and after a draft constitution is endorsed, it should be referred to the parliament of the Russian Federation for consideration and then sent to a Congress of People's Deputies for confirmation.

Baburin Explains Resignation Statement

PM1806101393 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 2

[Statement by Sergey Baburin: "I Did Not Serve Yeltsin's Regime"; and unattributed interview with Baburin]

[Text] [Baburin statement] "To R.I. Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet

"I am asking you to exclude me from the list of members of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Committee on Legislation and relieve me of my duties as subcommittee chairman. To my great regret the Supreme Soviet Committee on Legislation is becoming an increasingly active instrument of the antistate forces in the struggle against parliament and the whole system of the representative organs of power in Russia.

"On 15 June 1993 the so-called 'joint session' of the Committees on Legislation, Defense and Security, and Human Rights was held under the chairmanship of the chairman of the Committee on Legislation. This 'session,' where seven of the 22 members of the Committee on Legislation, three members of the Committee on Defense and Security, and four members of the Committee on Human Rights were present at the time of the vote, 'approved' by a majority a statement in support of the president's Constitutional Conference and the decisions made at that conference and condemned the attempts by the Supreme Soviet and its leadership to find other forms of further work on the draft new Constitution of Russia. I do not dispute my colleagues' right to support the president in the attempt to secure the reelection of the deputies in fall 1993, to elevate this or that conference to the level of the Congress of Russian People's Deputies, or to criticize individual articles of

the Constitution. But I cannot accept it when official committees of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet are used to destroy the constitutional foundations and strike at the parliamentary structures of the political system.

"In connection with the fact that the activity of the Supreme Soviet Commission on Legislation has now assumed a strictly pro-president tendency, which now often affects the quality of legislative work, and also because of the unthinking opposition of a majority which does not listen to a word that is said, I do not consider myself entitled to remain on the committee.

[Signed] "S. Baburin, 15 June 1993"

Interview Apropos

Russian People's Deputy Sergey Baburin's statement of resignation as a member of the Committee on Legislation, which is sensational in itself, has drawn answering fire. Clearly seeking to counter the impact made by the statement and to discredit its author, M. Mityukov, chairman of the Committee on Legislation, said, according to VESTI, that in three years' membership of the committee Sergey Baburin had done absolutely nothing at all. Naturally enough I asked the actual "protagonist" for an explanation...

"I am not offended by Mikhail Alekseyevich Mityukov," Sergey Nikolayevich said. "Clearly he is suffering from overwork in the president's Constitutional Conference and his memory and common sense are defective. But he is right on one thing: **In all three years of work on the Committee on Legislation I did not do a single day's work for Yeltsin's regime.** But when I delivered a report to the Supreme Soviet on draft laws or slaved over this or that draft law with my colleagues in the working groups or organized scientific and practical conferences, the committee's leadership never took any interest in this routine work. Incidentally, the last draft law prepared by my subcommittee was adopted by the Supreme Soviet about a month ago. But I am not going to try to prove or explain anything to my politically committed colleagues. The leadership of the Committee on Legislation and certain figures in the Supreme Soviet and among the deputies have long wanted to abolish my subcommittee, then the Committee for Questions of the Work of the Soviets, and then get rid of the soviets altogether."

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA] What was the reason for the joint session of the three parliamentary committees and what was it like?

[Baburin] Clearly they were brought together by a desire to serve the president. Their draft decree expressed support for the president's constitutional conference and the early elections of deputies. I was outraged by the very fact that three parliamentary committees (in fact only "fragments" of them—there was no quorum) are meeting in the Supreme Soviet and destroying it with their own hands! It is ludicrous but the organizers carried out their orders so zealously that when it came to the vote they even included the vote of Deputy Bezrukov, who wasn't even there: We know that he is an "aye" too, they said. It is distressing that the Committee on Legislation has been transformed into the instrument of antistate forces bent on the destruction of the Supreme Soviet and the sovereignty of the people.

Baburin 'Alone and Without Support'

LD1706224593 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1445 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Interview with Deputy Mikhail Alekseyevich Mityukov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet committee for legislation, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given; from the "Parliamentary Hour" program—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mikhail Alekseyevich, at the Presidium they read a statement by a member of your committee, Baburin. What prompted it, what caused him to write the statement, do you think?

[Mityukov] Well, I think it was prompted by the fact that today, at a session of representatives of the three committees—the committee for legislation, the committee for human rights, and the committee for defense and security—which was chaired by me, the position of Sergey Baburin regarding the course of the constitutional process in Russia was not supported. At that joint session, we discussed the development of the country's constitutional process and came to the conclusion that the Constitutional Conference convened by the president has given a boost to the development of the constitutional processes. We also stressed that the draft constitution must be adopted on a basis of maximal legitimacy. A part must be played in this both by the Supreme Soviet and the Congress of People's Deputies, and naturally the draft must be agreed by the subjects of the Federation. If the Congress doesn't pass it, and we have to put it to a referendum, then it will have to be a single, agreed draft. That is the position expounded as a result of the Conference.

Naturally, Sergey Baburin now finds himself alone and without support, and so he has said that the committee has taken a pro-presidential stance and therefore he has taken the step of announcing that he's resigning from the committee and being relieved of his duties as chairman of the sub-committee.

Report on 17 Jun Parliament Proceedings

LD1706151093 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1222 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report by parliamentary correspondent Aleksandr Ruvinskiy]

[Text] Here in the Russian parliament today, usually on Thursdays they always have a plenary session, but now, as the Supreme Soviet chairman is absent—as we know, he is on a working trip—obviously it was decided that a

plenary session should not be held, and the People's Deputies worked in chambers. I have to say that in general everything here is happening, naturally, in the shadow of the Constitutional Conference. The Supreme Soviet is working in this shadow too.

Basically, the chambers proceeded according to plan. They adopted a whole range of important draft laws. I would now like to tell you about some news conferences which happened here. In particular, People's Deputy Nikolay Pavlovich Medvedev held a news conference, and because he is the head of the delegation at the interstate negotiations with Estonia, the news conference was dedicated to the state of these negotiations, and this is what Nikolay Pavlovich told me after the news conference:

[Begin recording] [Ruvinskiy] Nikolay Pavlovich, we get the impression that the interstate negotiations with Estonia regarding observance of the rights of the Russian-speaking population have come to a dead end. Can we characterize the current stage in this way?

[Medvedev] Well, I would not say that absolutely [words indistinct] there are symptoms. And our conclusions after the Estonian parliamentary group visit show that these symptoms could really come to life, because the new Estonian parliament is unfortunately doing everything it can toward this, as we see it. And our purely parliamentary relations have unfortunately, let us put it this way, they are becoming more complicated due to the fact that [their] parliament is not looking for ways of making contact. We suggested to Mr. [Ulo] Nugis that a special parliamentary group for mutual relations of this kind should be set up, to tackle complex questions of this nature. Unfortunately, the Estonian side still does not have a group of this kind. Russia has one.

[Ruvinskiy] Can we talk of a certain hardening in Estonia's position because it has become a Council of Europe member?

[Medvedev] Yes, I think we can, and particularly the positions of parliamentarians, members of the state assembly.

[Ruvinskiy] I know that Russia did not particularly object to Estonia being accepted into the Council of Europe. Perhaps these issues should have been brought up then, at the Council of Europe?

[Medvedev] Unfortunately, I think the CSCE did not completely understand the position of the new Russian democratic state, striving to tackle all issues by legal and political methods. I think somebody was too hasty in drawing conclusions, because Russia acts by political methods alone, and only within the framework of all declarations and norms of international law.

[Ruvinskiy] Thank you. [end recording]

And I have to say that there was another news conference today, held by the Russian Unity opposition bloc, and naturally it was mainly devoted to the problems under examination at the Constitutional Conference. Basically, 26 June, the last day of the Constitutional Conference when a plenary session will be held, has been determined by the opposition as the last line to which it can retreat. Everything further, as they put it, will be viewed solely within the framework of the constitution. The opposition is preparing to call a different constitutional conference for 3 July, and as was said at the news conference, it is ready to [words indistinct] energetic and adequate measures. In particular, it was said that there is plenty of room for Yeltsin in Russia. According to the opposition's count, Yeltsin has only 150 supporters in parliament, not the 300-odd that was announced. That is what the opposition thinks.

Well, apart from that, a statement by Yuriy Slobodkin, the people's deputy around whom an incident took place 5 June at the Constitutional Conference was read here, and Slobodkin made the statement that he refuses to take any further part in the Constitutional Conference, which he said from the very start, and incorrect information came out in the press, and he has decided unshakably to boycott the conference.

Well, that is what is happening here today in the Supreme Soviet.

Ossetian-Ingush Conflict Discussed

LD1706213093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1010 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 17 Jun—The Soviet of Nationalities of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet has deemed it desirable to set up a group made up of representatives of the Russian parliament and government in the Ossetian-Ingush conflict zone in order to be able to decide on the spot how to overcome the consequences of the tragedy. In accordance with a resolution adopted at today's sitting of the chamber, the group will be headed by a deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet and a deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers. [passage omitted]

It was stated during the discussion—in which Ruslan Aushev, president of the Ingush Republic, and Sergey Khetagurov, chairman of the North Ossetian Council of Ministers, took part—that federal and republican executive bodies and procuracy bodies are not active and persistent enough in implementing legislative acts and previously adopted decisions. Seven months after the conflict started, its causes and organizers have still not been found out, virtually nothing is being done to solve the problems of refugees and of those people forced to resettle, and no measures are being taken to disband illegal armed groups.

The speakers stressed the need to search for a compromise, settling the conflict through talks.

Pochinok Comments on Budget

LD1706203193 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] In the opinion of Aleksandr Pochinok, chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for Budget, Plans, Taxes, and Prices, the country's budget for 1994 should be divided into federal and territorial. He addressed the Supreme Soviet session today with a report on the commission's work.

In his opinion, the system of approving the country's budget should be fundamentally changed. Territories should not go cap in hand to the Finance Ministry and beg for money, the deputy said. It should be reflected in the constitution, he thinks that budgets of territories should be independent. According to the chairman of the parliamentary commission, all budget, taxation, and similar laws should be adopted by three readings with compulsory endorsement in all committees; this will exclude taxation discrepancies.

Bill Passed on Arrest Procedures

LD1706205893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet has passed at its first reading a bill on detaining in custody those suspected or accused of committing crimes. The deputies voted in favor of this decision at separate sittings of the chambers today.

The bill, ITAR-TASS notes, is aimed at bringing the legal position of the accused and the procedure of their detainment in custody in line with the principles of the judicial and legal reform and generally accepted international norms. Special attention has been given to increased guarantees of human dignity, the inadmissibility of cruel or inhuman treatment, and also to the solution of a complex of legal, social, and everyday problems of persons in custody.

'Plan To Seize' Parliament To Be Investigated

LD1806104293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1025 GMT 18 Jun 93

[By New York ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—The Russian parliament has adopted a decision to hold hearings on a report published by the newspaper PRAVDA, entitled "Who Will Be Struck by Lightning", and asked Russian Minister for Security, Viktor Barannikov, to make a report in parliament in connection with the publication.

Deputy Boris Tarasov, who suggested putting this issue on the parliament's agenda, explained that the newspaper alleged that "circles close to the president had worked out a plan to seize the White House by special troops, liquidate the parliament and that these troops had been allegedly trained in the area of the village on Novaya of Balashikha region in the Moscow suburb. [quotation marks as received]

Tarasov told the parliament that on Thursday [17 June], a group of parliamentary deputies visited the region. The parliamentarians visited the testing site in a training centre of the Dzerzhnskiy Interior Troops unit and found out that no preparations for this operation had been made.

Afterwards, deputies went to another training centre of the Russian Ministry of Security situated in the same region and "encountered a situation which compels us to raise this question in parliament," Tarasov said.

According to Tarasov, officials of the training centre had given rebuff to the delegation refusing to take in the situation, not allowing the parliamentarians to see anything at all, and denied access to the territory of the training centre altogether.

"We have faced an outrageous violation of the status of a people's deputy," the Russian MP said.

Law To Restrict Hard Currency Use Reported

LD1706212093 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 17 Jun 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Postfaktum agency reported today that Aleksandr Pochinok, chairman of the parliamentary budget commission, announced that a law was currently being prepared to restrict the use of foreign currency on Russian territory.

Request To Discuss Coup Trial Refused

LD1806100693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0957 GMT 18 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—The Russian parliament refused on Friday [18 June] to include in the agenda the request of the judge chairing the trial of 12 organisers of a hard-line coup attempt in Moscow on august 19, 1991 to ensure independent prosecution and the decision may further delay the resumption of the trial.

The judge suspended the trial and after the court satisfied the rejection of the prosecution demanded by the accused who said the prosecution was biased.

The court ruled that Russian Prosecutor General Valentin Stepankov and his Deputy Yevgeniy Lisov, who appointed the prosecution at the trial, violated the law during preliminary investigation by publishing their version of the hard-line coup preparations in a book called "The Kremlin Plot" which bluntly qualified the accused as criminals and all their future statements at the trial as a political provocation.

The court said the prosecutor general had both violated the law and interfered into the authority of the judicial system.

The parliament was proposed to discuss the request of the court by Chairman of the Committee on Legislation Mikhail Mityukov. He recalled that the request was forwarded to the Supreme Soviet while the answer was provided by a deputy chairman without consultations. "The answer on the issue was given by deputy parliament chairman personally. Whether it was right or wrong is another aspect of the problem. The request was sent to the Supreme Soviet", Mityukov stressed.

Parliamentary Proceedings of 10, 11 June Viewed

PM0206160193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[Parliamentary observer Aleksey Vorobyev report: "Responding to the Wishes of the Regions"]

[Text] Having marked themselves out a tight timetable for the examination of draft laws, the parliamentarians at the 10 June joint session managed to adhere to it strictly. In the afternoon they discussed and adopted a decree "On Additional Measures To Ensure the Social Protection of Citizens Exposed to the Effects of Radiation as a Consequence of the Chernobyl Disaster" and a Supreme Soviet decree "On the Procedure for Applying Article 2 of the Rules Governing Compensation To Be Given by Employers to Employees Suffering Mutilation, Professional Ailments, or Any Other Damage to Health Connected With the Fulfillment of Their Work Duties." Candidates to become Russian Federation people's judges were examined and confirmed. At the end of the day a report was heard from the Supreme Soviet Committee for Women's Affairs, the Family, and Maternity and Child Protection. It was stressed that many edicts on protection for mothers and children, on ensuring children's rights, and also connected with compensating families with children for material losses suffered in the course of the economic reform are not being fulfilled. An especially difficult situation has formed here in the country's northern regions. Deputies resolved to take cognizance of the committee's information and also decided to send a special memorandum on the state of affairs in this area to the Russian Federation president.

Discussing the Supreme Soviet Decree "On the Draft Russian Federation State Program for the Radiation Decontamination of the Urals Region and Measures to Provide Support for the Affected Population for the Period Through 1995," deputies together reached the conclusion that a clear concept for combating radioactive pollution of the territory has not yet been developed; Russian science has not yet formulated such a concept.

But at the insistence of the Russian regions the parliamentarians are obliged to examine the proposed program as a matter of exceptional urgency. Therefore, in the interests of Russian citizens faced with imminent disaster, the decree in question was adopted at the session, although the imperfections of the program were obvious.

At the joint session on Friday, 11 June deputies gave a second reading to the law "On the Use of Cash Registers to Effect Monetary Transactions With the Public," according to which organizations engaging in trade or providing public services are obliged to use cash machines.

An alternative presidential draft law, by some strange logic submitted to the Supreme Soviet after the first reading of the draft mentioned above, was rejected. Though deputies did take account of some of its important provisions in the adopted document in the form of amendments.

Also removed from discussion was the draft law "On amending and supplementing individual Russian Federation tax laws." The draft had been submitted to parliament literally on the previous evening and had not undergone appropriate expert analysis in committees and commissions. Deputies deemed this practice faulty and returned the document to be examined by experts.

At the end of the day the report of the Committee for Interrepublic Relations, Regional Policy, and Cooperation Questions was given a hearing. Despite the expected severe criticism of committee chairman Vladimir Popoprigora, who is clearly gravitating toward the democrats in the Kremlin, the discussion was extremely proper and constructive; the report was taken into consideration, and no organizational conclusions were recorded.

Regional Affairs

Yeltsin 'Instruction' on Ossetian-Ingush Conflict

LD1806081693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0635 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] 18 Jun—Russian President Boris Yeltsin has signed an instruction in order to prevent the further deterioration of the situation in the area of the Ossetian-Ingush conflict. This was announced today by the press service of the president of the Russian Federation.

In accordance with the document, the Russian Federation Government is instructed to consider, before 1 July, the question of measures to promote an integrated solution to the problem of refugees and forced migrants on the territories of the Ingush Republic and the North Ossetian SSR on the basis of the accords reached in Kislovodsk on 20 March 1993.

The chairman of the government is charged with resolving questions regarding the appointment of a head of the temporary administration on the territories of Mozdokskiy Rayon and Prigorodnyy Rayon, in adjacent localities in the North Ossetian SSR and Malgobekskiy and Nazranovskiy Rayons in the Ingush Republic, and on the site of the temporary administration. The chairman is also charged

with resolving other questions related to its activities to ensure the state of emergency regime.

Vice Premier Gives News Conference on Tula Visit

LD1706211093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2025 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Rudenko]

[Text] Tula, central Russia, June 18 TASS—The agro-industrial sector of Russia is in need of state support, Russian Vice-Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha said here on Thursday [17 June] at a press conference on the results of his trip to Tula region to familiarise himself with experience in reforming its agricultural enterprises.

In response to journalists' questions about measures to protect domestic commodity producers, the vice-premier said the question of removing price reduction coefficients for the import of meat and dairy products is to be brought up for Friday's meeting of the government presidium.

Eighty per cent of the import of the products are now subsidised from the budget, whereas only 15 per cent of domestic products are subsidised. The import of meat is expected to be halved and that of dairy products reduced by one third. The import of grain is to be cut down as well.

"However, we are to overcome active lobbying for these actions by Western business circles and politicians who seek to link the issues even with the filling of credits. Thus, instead of oil-seed meal and corn which Russia needs, they try to foist vegetable oil, beans and forage grain upon us. Meanwhile, the Russian agro-industrial complex itself can provide the country with these products," Zaveryukha said.

Yarov on Krasnoyarsk Soviet-Supreme Soviet Conflict

LD1806091293 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Yarov has stated that the Krasnoyarsk Kray Soviet of People's Deputies has expressed disagreement with the Soviet of Nationalities of the Russian Supreme Soviet in connection with its decision making the law on the kray-oblast soviet applicable to autonomous okrugs.

In the opinion of the Krasnoyarsk deputies, this decision could lead to the borders of krays and oblasts being changed, which would mean a violation of the existing Constitution. For Krasnoyarsk Kray, this is a special concern because it includes two autonomous okrugs—Taymyr and Evenki—and the fear here is that the decision of the Soviet of Nationalities will lead to the question of their leaving the kray emerging.

Touching on this problem in an ITAR-TASS interview, Yarov—who arrived in Krasnoyarsk today—said that the existing Federation Treaty recognizes republics, krays, oblasts, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous entities as components of the federation.

Referendum on Structure of Chechnya Set for 27 Oct

LD1706193693 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report by announcer Svetlana Sorokina; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Armed supporters of the president of Chechnya [Dzhokhar Dudayev] advanced today towards the rayons controlled by the opposition. The leaders of Nadterechnyy rayon have sent a statement to President Dudayev saying that any form of armed intrusion into its territory will be regarded as an act of aggression.

The press center of the Chechen president announced today that a referendum on the state structure of Chechnya will be held on 27 October 1993. This was reported by the Postfaktum agency.

Yeltsin Nominee Refuses To Yield to Elected Governor

PM1806084593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Jun 93 First Edition p 4

[Anatoliy Usoltsev report: "Two Governors in Chelyabinsk"]

[Text] The confrontation between the representative and executive authorities in Chelyabinsk Oblast has entered a new phase.

A resumed oblast soviet session started off by giving the floor to Vadim Kozlov, chairman of the oblast electoral commission. He reported on a sitting of the commission that he heads. Since the Russian Constitutional Court on 14 June recognized the oblast soviet decision to hold an election for the head of administration as having been in line with the Constitution, nothing stood in the way of the electoral commission members' registering Petr Sumin's election as oblast governor. The registration had been carried out, and Petr Sumin had been given certification as head of administration.

"From that moment," the oblast electoral commission chairman said, "the new governor assumed office."

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA has already referred to the protracted conflict between the Chelyabinsk authorities in connection with the election of the head of administration. The decision to hold an election was disputed by incumbent governor Vadim Solovyev, and the oblast court and prosecutor questioned its legality. But the election was held, and the voters gave their preference to Oblast Soviet Chairman Petr Sumin. However, the Russian president did not ratify the former governor's [Sumin served a previous term] appointment. The dispute was transferred to the Constitutional Court.

Now that the verdict of the Constitutional Court has become known, the procedure for the new head of administration's assumption of office has begun. The oblast soviet session gave a hearing to Petr Sumin. He read the text of the

oath as head of administration and asked deputies to accept his resignation from the chairmanship of the oblast soviet and relieve him of his deputy's status early. He then announced his first three decrees, which aestablished his assumption of office as head of administration and ratified the authority of the service chiefs and administration heads in the oblast's cities and rayons.

The session met his request.

Meanwhile Vadim Solovyev, the previous head of the oblast administration, and his team, are continuing to carry out their duties. Right after the session our correspondent met with Andrey Belishko, first deputy governor, who stated the following:

"The oblast administration does not recognize the unlawfully elected head. Vadim Solovyev remains head of administration. He will be in his post until the president of Russia publishes an edict dismissing him. Petr Sumin's directives will simply not be carried out."

So Chelyabinsk Oblast has two governors. Which of them is more legitimate, so to speak, and whose directives are more lawful? The leaders of many oblast administrative departments and law enforcement agencies are doubtless feeling dizzy as a result of these difficult questions. For the moment there is no end to the excessively protracted dispute between the two branches of power in Chelyabinsk.

Udmurt Parliament Refuses Prime Minister's Resignation

PM1706123193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[Report by Boris Bronshteyn: "Government Crisis in Udmurtia"]

[Text] A session of the Udmurt Supreme Soviet raised the question of fundamental changes in the republic's government.

A special deputies commission which has investigated the government's foreign economic activity has suggested handing the materials of the check to the law enforcement organs, concluding that this activity has harmed the republic. Nikolay Mironov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, has made an announcement of his voluntary resignation at the session which, however, the parliament has not accepted.

Tomsk Oblast Inner Soviet Discusses Constitution

PM1706155193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 2

[Aleksandr Chernykh report under "Regions' Position" rubric: "They Preferred Equality"]

[Text] Tomsk—A stormy discussion of the drafts of the constitution took place at a session of the inner soviet of Tomsk Oblast Soviet. Diametrically opposed viewpoints intensified by emotion repeatedly "wound up" the hall. Nevertheless, the deputies did a lot of frank talking and adopted quite considered decisions. Probably just one point was made categorically. This point deems it inexpedient to take the president's version as the basis when elaborating the draft constitution. This is based on the belief that Yeltsin's draft runs counter to the basic principles of Russia's democratic development and threatens to establish the president's dictatorship.

It is proposed to use the versions that exist as working materials. The deputies adopted a decision on the need to publish alternative drafts before 1 July, to hold a nationwide discussion before 1 September, and to prepare a single agreed draft of the Russian Federation Constitution and approve it at the Congress of People's Deputies on its first reading before 1 November.

This draft must be sent for initialing to the top representative organs of power of the components of the Federation. The initialed text of the constitution is adopted by constitutional means, i.e. by the Congress, by referendum, or otherwise, no later than 1 January 1994. But in any case the procedure for adopting the constitution is decided by the Congress.

The inner soviet session expressed its attitude to the Constitutional Conference. It was pointed out that its work procedure does not take account of the proposals of Tomsk Oblast Soviet, the council of the "Siberian Agreement" interregional association, or other components of Russia for a simultaneous discussion of the existing drafts. The president's version has been preferred.

Many other comments were made on the procedure for forming the conference and its work procedure. In particular, it was said that the atmosphere which developed at the first sitting and which was geared to suppressing dissension, is unacceptable for a consultative and conciliatory organ both in essence and in form. In conclusion the deputies instructed the president, the Supreme Soviet, and the Constitutional Commission to make every effort to eliminate the aftermath of the "incident."

North Ossetian Leaders Unhappy With Russian Inquiry

MK1706112293 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 3

[Natalya Pachegina report: "Vladikavkaz Dissatisfied With Russian Investigating Team. Meanwhile, the Situation in the State of Emergency Area Remains Tense"]

[Excerpts] A meeting of the republic's Security Council took place in Vladikavkaz to discuss collaboration between the North Ossetian leadership and the republic's law-enforcement agencies on the one hand, and members of the operative investigating team of the Russian General Prosecutor's Office, the Russian Internal Affairs Ministry, and the Russian Security Ministry on the other. Akhsarbek Galazov, North Ossetian Supreme Soviet chairman, pointed out that the work of

the Russian investigating team on the territory of Prigorodnyy Rayon did not meet the North Ossetian public's expectations. Not only did the team fail, in his view, to give a legal opinion on the events of last November and to come up with any names of "Ingush extremists," but it also shirked collaboration with the law-enforcement bodies of the republic. According to the North Ossetian leader, the Russian operational investigating team is slow to file criminal charges against the instigators of the armed action in Prigorodnyy Rayon, although people in Vladikavkaz are certain that the team knows the names of the perpetrators perfectly well. [passage omitted]

A leader of the joint operations investigating team conducting inquiries into the circumstances of the armed Ossetian-Ingush conflict, who asked not to be identified, agreed to comment on the North Ossetian leader's opinion about the quality of work performed by the Russian investigators. First, he believes, the members of the operations investigating team, as follows from the team's name, are not entitled to give "a legal opinion" on the events in Prigorodnyy Rayon. The claim that the group failed to press charges against those responsible for the crimes does not square with reality, either. As a matter of fact, the Russian investigator noted, demands that those responsible be punished should also apply to Ossetian citizens who helped provoke the bloodshed. Meanwhile, he added, detentions of Ossetian suspects have repeatedly been accompanied by rallies and political speculations. The complexity of the more than seven-month investigation into the armed conflict is compounded by the fact that Russian investigators are unable to rely on the assistance from their North Ossetian colleagues. This, however, is what is essential for a fair investigation, he said, and lawyers will agree with me.

Today, North Ossetian Supreme Soviet Chairman Galazov will attend the Russian Supreme Soviet's Soviet of Nationalities meeting devoted to the situation in North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic. The Provisional Administration on the territories of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic expects that the meeting of the Soviet of Nationalities will resolve the question of forced disarmament of the population in the area of the state of emergency and also of the illegal armed formations of both sides. The North Ossetian Supreme Soviet chairman denied recently circulated rumors about an edict allegedly being drawn up by Russian President Yeltsin's apparatus declaring a state of emergency on the territory of North Ossetia's Prigorodnyy Rayon. Galazov cited his personal conversation with Yeltsin, who reassured him that he would not sign any documents changing the status of Prigorodnyy Rayon or violating any provisions of the Federation Treaty between the Russian Federation and North Ossetia. [passage omitted]

'Further Dismemberment' of Country Possible

MK1706104093 Moscow FEDERATSIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 1

[Report by Vladimir Kiriyenko, head of FEDERATSIYA public survey service, under the "Sociologist's Opinion" rubric: "The Process Is Under Way"]

[Text] This past March, 39 percent of Muscovites and 47 percent of people polled in other regions predicted that the Russian Federation may break up, as happened with the Soviet Union, into a number of sovereign states in the wake of the 25 April 1993 referendum. Today as many as 50 percent of the respondents think Russia's further dismemberment is possible.

Proceeding from the results of a survey conducted by FEDERATSIYA's sociological group together with other public survey teams this May in nine regions of Russia (Moscow, St. Petersburg, Vladimir, Rostov-on-Don, Kaliningrad, Chelyabinsk, Tomsk, Vladivostok, and Moscow Oblast) where 1,637 respondents were polled, we attempted to answer the question: What do people in Russia think about preserving the state's integrity. The results are interesting in comparison with the results of a survey that involved 1,500 respondents in 10 regions one year ago.

Thus, to the question: "Do you think one should press for the continued integrity of Russia?"—we obtained the following answers in percentages:

	1992 (April)	1993 (May)
Yes, even if part of the "autonomies" are against	56	40
No, if population of the "autonomies" so wish, they should be given a chance to secede from Russia and form their own state	24	41
Hard to say	20	19

What is it: being wise, or accepting the inevitability that people think can no longer be averted?

International Affairs

Kravchuk, Kuchma Praise Results of Moscow Summit

Kravchuk Says Disputes Resolved

LD1706225693 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Comments by President Leonid Kravchuk on his return from Moscow on 17 June in Kiev—recorded]

[Text] As we have already reported, talks between Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, took place in Moscow on 17 June. The president of Ukraine returned to Kiev on 17 June. What were the results of his visit to Moscow? This was the question of our correspondent.

[Kravchuk] If one is to say just the main results, then one can describe them thus: All of the acute problems that we had—at any rate if all of them have not been resolved too completely—then the main policies have now been determined precisely, for example, on the Black Sea Fleet, regarding strategic nuclear weapons, regarding the assets and debts definitively, the economic problem, in particular providing Ukraine with energy-carriers, that is a whole package of documents, that up until now has been difficult to move on from and resolve. At any rate it seems to me that we managed to resolve them.

I understand that there can be various evaluations of our meeting and of the documents that have been signed. But the main thing is that we worked constructively, in the spirit of a friendly attitude. I want to say that no one made use of any kind of advantages or possibilities of any kind of pressure. That is, the discussion proceeded normally, in a good atmosphere. This also produced the appropriate situation for signing the documents.

We signed an agreement on the Black Sea Fleet; we signed a communique. We went on to agree on something very important for economic issues it seems to me, and on 24 June Russian Prime Minister Viktor Stepanovych Chernomyrdin will come to Kiev on an official visit. Then Prime Minister Leonid Danylovych Kuchma will sign those economic agreements with him, on, for example, free trade, on the question of energy deliveries and prices, credits, with providing with other problems, transport—well, that is a whole series of economic agreements, that are vitally necessary for Ukraine at the moment.

You know, as we were going to Moscow we had some doubts as to whether we would be able [words indistinct, correspondent tries to interrupt] especially as we have this situation in Ukraine. We can say now that in any event the problems of oil and of gas, which is most important today, has been opened up for work and for resolution.

We even wrote such things as share-holding into the communique. For example, Russia can buy a portion of shares at Ukrainian enterprises, and Ukraine at Russian ones, especially ones that are very necessary for us; these are oil and gas problems. We wrote into the communique on constructing joint enterprises, Russian-Ukrainian ones, and Ukrainian-Russian ones. That is, it seems to me that this visit—I want to believe this, and I said this to Boris Nikolayevich, so that the whole delegation was there—will open a qualitatively new stage in our relations.

You see, if one is to examine a problem in ideal terms, perhaps we would like more, perhaps Russia would like more. But we did what we could do, taking into account the interests of Russia and Ukraine, and taking into account, if one is to take Sevastopol and the Black Sea Fleet, the interests of that region, the defense of that region, the region's security, and on the whole, our prospects, our friendship of two peoples, two states, our partnership relations, because there will never be anything else in our life. If we take the road of confrontation with Russia, this means the end of all of our prospects.

I am saying this consciously, and I am saying this so that everyone knows this. Any attempt to resolve problems by means of pressure or to start on the route of ambitions, and a childish attitude to these problems—I do not want to, and that is it, I want it only like this and that is all—this is not politics, this is playing with dolls. But we are engaged in serious politics and must think about preserving our state, and the preservation of the state today is concealed in the documents that we signed. This is my deep conviction.

I want to make use of this opportunity, if someone is going to be listening to us today, especially those who are still on strike, or are intending to strike, that whatever we resolve there, it is very important, but if we do not work here, if we are going to resolve things there, and stand still here, then that makes up for this.

Only interaction, which we do there when we make agreements, and our work, the work of all and responsibility to Ukraine, to the people, it seems to me will make it possible for us to preserve not only the state, but to stop those processes of decline, inflation and so on, that we have today. We have often agreed and signed documents, but always some kind of objective circumstances were in our way.

I think the fact that Russia [words indistinct] did not make use of the possibilities that it would have had today, taking into account our weakened position, with the help of our strikers—we will speak in this way, frankly—but Russia did not take advantage of this. There was not a single new idea, I emphasize this, nor any kind of new proposals or demands to Ukraine, not on the fleet, nor on anything. This also stems from the Dagomys and Yalta Agreements, all of the talks, that is there was not a single new problem that could arise taking into account the situation, for example.

I want to emphasize in this way that the attitude was polite, an absolutely normal friendly attitude. That somebody sometimes says, you know, something somewhere, a phrase out of turn or makes some movement either with one's hand or one's face. This does not mean at all that when serious problems are being resolved that they are resolved [word indistinct] the interests of the states.

It seems to me that life has already let us down so much, namely life, both in Ukraine and in Russia, that one could not even think of or find something else. Everyone understood that if we did not resolve this today, then it could be too late tomorrow.

Leaders Agree on Nuclear Issue

WS1806090793 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2059 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Kiev, 17 June—President Leonid Kravchuk, Prime Minister Kuchma, and other members of the Ukrainian delegation have returned to Kiev.

Leonid Kravchuk: "One can summarize the main results of the meeting in the following way: Although all the acute problems that we were faced with may not be entirely resolved, the main guidelines have been precisely determined. These include such issues as the Black Sea fleet, strategic nuclear weapons, and assets and liabilities. The problem of energy sources was also settled. The important thing is that we worked very constructively. No one attempted to gain the upper hand, and negotiations proceeded in a normal manner. We have signed an agreement on the Black Sea Fleet, a communique, and have agreed on several economic issues. Leonid Kuchma and his Russian counterpart, Viktor Chernomyrdin, will sign economic treaties on free trade, prices for energy sources, credits, and transportation on 24 June. The problems connected with oil and natural gas are being worked on. I hope that this visit will start a qualitively new stage in our relationship. Any attempt to solve problems by exerting pressure or following one's ambitions cannot be called politics—it is a game. We must think about the preservation of the state, which can be ensured by the documents that we have just signed. Seizing the opportunity, I want to say that we will still get nowhere if we decide everything there in Moscow and do not work hard here. A concerted effort by all of us will not only preserve our state but also stop inflation."

Leonid Kuchma: "I agree with the position taken by the Ukrainian president today. This has been our easiest trip, because Kravchuk spoke with Yeltsin for two hours only. When I came in, all the problems were already solved. All that was left for me to do was just to specify the details. That was the easiest meeting ever, and I liked the attitude of Yeltsin, who had a lot of understanding for the situation in Ukraine. I also liked prospects for the future. We even came to terms on the issues left after the conclusion of the zero option on the foreign debt. Thirty-six buildings located abroad—embassies and trade representative offices—were transferred to us with no obligations to lease them. As for oil and natural gas, we agreed on gradually raising their prices up to world levels, which they will reach on 1 January [1994]. The same applies to transportation prices."

Kravchuk: "I think that Russia did not take advantage of the fact that our position was undermined by the coal miners' strikes. There were no demands to Ukraine. I want to emphasize that their attitude was absolutely normal."

Kuchma: "One of the leading issues was nuclear disarmament. Careful and detailed thought was given to all the problems, including maintenance of Ukrainian-based nuclear warheads. Until recently, Russia would not sign an agreement on this before the ratification of START I by the Ukrainian legislature. But today we have agreed on this."

Agreements on Fleet, Economy Noted

LD1706200993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1959 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Viktor Demidenko for TASS]

[Text] Kiev June 17 TASS—"A qualitativly new stage is now opening up in the development of relations between Ukraine and Russia. We have done our utmost to secure that economic ties gain in scope and friendship between the peoples of the two countries grows stronger," President Leonid Kravchuk told journalists immediately upon his arrival from Moscow.

He said the situation that has developed in the Black Sea fleet was discussed during his meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow region and urgent measures were mapped out to settle it. Matters aimed at further developing bilateral relations were discussed as well. The Ukrainian president emphasised that the meeting was held in an atmosphere on mutual understanding and trust.

Kravchuk said an accord was reached to expedite the formation of the Ukrainian and Russian navies on the basis of the Black Sea fleet. With this aim in view, an appropriate agreement was signed. It is planned to set up an interstate commission soon to implement it.

The two sides decided upon on matters concerning strategic nuclear arms and the division of the assets and liabilities of the former Soviet Union between Ukraine and Russia. In particular, part of buildings will be turned over to the Ukrainian state to house embasses and trade missions.

Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma told journalists about the economic aspects of relations between Ukraine and Russia. He said agreement had been reached to give greater scope to cooperation in addressing fuel and

energy matters. In the process, the prices of oil and gas will be gradually increased up to world standards until January 1, 1994. An agreement on joint corporatisation of a number of Ukrainian and Russian enterprises will be prepared. Kiev and Moscow intend to promote the establishment of joint ventures.

It was announced that Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin would arrive in Ukraine on June 24 to sign a package of economic documents.

Kuchma Supports Economic Cooperation With Russia

LD1806104693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1037 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—Prime Minister of Ukraine Leonid Kuchma considers close economic cooperation with Russia as a strategical line of the republic. In an interview with the newspaper "24" Kuchma emphasised that such policy "is vital not only for us, the Ukrainians, but for Russia as well. If we are able to restore what we have lost during the past few years, put the potential of the two industrial countries at the service of our people and revive the ruined economy, we will get out together of the abyss we fell into."

According to the Ukrainian premier, there are more than enough causes of our disastrous state. "Earlier in the country which was once called the 'USSR', life of all republics was regulated by very close interrelations. But we began erecting a new building, pulling everything down. Now when stones of the old foundation are scattered around, we are looking back to see what has happened to us. I think, it is time to gather these stones," he explained.

Crimean Parliament Adopts Decree on Black Sea Fleet

PM1706131393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Nikolay Semena: "Crimea's Position Formulated at Talks on Black Sea"]

[Text] Sevastopol—An extraordinary session of the Crimean Supreme Soviet has adopted a decree on the republic's position regarding the Black Sea Fleet.

It was no accident that the session met on the eve of the Moscow meeting of the presidents. And although the main question on the agenda was the formation of a free economic regime in the republic, the parliamentarians first discussed the situation regarding the Black Sea Fleet and Sevastopol and instructed speaker N. Bagrov, who is taking part in the meeting, to tell the presidents the opinion of the autonomous body's Supreme Soviet. It is based on the following three principles:

—the need to preserve the Black Sea Fleet as a single combat force ensuring the defense of the common interests of Ukraine and Russia;

—the need to consider Crimea's defense and economic interests in any option for resolving the problem;

—the need for the immediate adoption of a package of documents ensuring the civil, economic, and social rights of the fleet's servicemen and members of their families.

Aspin, Morozov 7 Jun News Conference Viewed

AU1706154793 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 15 Jun 93 p 2

[Oleh Oliynyk commentary: "The Military Are Becoming Diplomats"]

[Text] As we have already reported, a news conference was held on 7 June on the results of U.S. Secretary of Defense L. Aspin's visit to Kiev.

The U.S. guest and Ukrainian Minister of Defense Colonel General K. Morozov, speaking before journalists, expressed their satisfaction with the meeting, which was the first at such a level. Mutual understanding was reached on many issues of interest to both sides. The Ukrainian minister of defense was invited to visit Washington, the visit should take place around July, where a memorandum on mutual understanding between the military departments of the countries will be signed.

Speaking about possible cooperation, Morozov stated that a permanent working group will be formed in the near future to work on practical measures for implementing the accords. In particular, this concerns advanced training of Ukrainian officers in military schools in the United States and the exchange of delegations.

Aspin, in turn, made special mention of Ukraine's contribution to the peacekeeping forces in Yugoslavia. People in the United States are sincerely grateful to our state and to its servicemen for this contribution. We believe that it is in the United States' national interests to see an independent and economically viable Ukraine, said Aspin.

In his opinion, Ukraine must be a nuclear-free state. The U.S. side points out with satisfaction that President Kravchuk has once again confirmed his position on the need to ratify START I and the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Also, it has become clear that this problem is a matter of concern among a section of parliamentary deputies in Ukraine. Aspin is also aware of this.

In general, at the news conference, the U.S. secretary of defense acted like a diplomat rather than head of a military department, avoiding giving negative answers to any of the journalists' questions. Even when they dealt with additional financing by the United States for the disarmament process in Ukraine, the possibility of storing warheads on our territory under international control, or the United States' hypothetical military purchases in Ukraine. Everything must be studied and discussed, Aspin pointed out.

UN's Butrus-Ghali Arrives for 3-Day Visit

LD1706162193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1516 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya for TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 17 Jun—UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali has arrived on a visit to the Ukrainian capital today. The guest was met at Borispol airport by Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Mykola Zhulynskyy, Deputy Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk, and other officials.

The program of the visit, which is planned to last three days, includes meetings with Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk; Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma; Vasiliy Durdynets, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet; and Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko. Butrus-Ghali is also expected to speak to the Ukrainian parliamentary deputies, to visit the temporary office of the UN mission to Ukraine and the new permanent office, as well as to hold a news conference.

Asks Nation for More Peacekeepers

LD1706225793 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report by correspondent Volodymyr Tatarenko]

[Text] Mr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali, UN secretary general, was met at Borispol airport by Mykola Zhulynskyy, deputy prime minister of Ukraine; Borys Tarasyuk, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Ukraine; Viktor Batyuk, Ukraine's permanent representative at the UN; and Stephen Brown, head of the UN mission in Ukraine. Mr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali held an improvised news conference on the aircraft runway for Ukrainian and foreign journalists. What is the purpose of your trip to Ukraine, I asked Mr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali.

[Butrus-Ghali heard speaking briefly in English, fading to Ukrainian translation by Tatarenko] The first purpose of my visit is, said Mr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali, to express my sincere thanks to Ukraine for its contribution to UN activity in the matter of peacekeeping, and also in particular for the fact that Ukraine has its military contingent in Bosnia. Unfortunately Ukraine has had human losses there.

I am a person who is always asking for something, demanding something, said the UN secretary general. Therefore, my second purpose is that I want to ask Ukraine to increase its military contingent in the UN peacekeeping forces.

I wished the lofty guest a good time during his stay on hospitable Ukrainian land.

Commentary Views German Chancellor's Visit

PM1706104793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition p 7

["Commentary" by Aleksandr Lukyanov: "...And in Kiev, Kohl"]

[Text] At the end of the last political week two former republics, Russia and Ukraine, of a union that has been consigned to oblivion, the USSR, made a show of their independence: Moscow marked the third anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the State Sovereignty of the Russian Federation, while Kiev greeted H. Kohl, "chancellor of all the Germans."

Whereas the day of Russia's acquisition of independence was recognized by tricolors raised here and there and by articles in the press, and no more, on the Dnieper special significance was attached to the visit of the head of the German state: President L. Kravchuk wished to demonstrate once again to Europe, and not least to Russia, that Ukraine is not "lying fallow" in European and world affairs.

Evidently, this is why the first Ukrainian president gave a high assessment to the Declaration on the Fundamentals of Relations between the two countries, signed by H. Kohl and L. Kravchuk. In his opinion, the document opens a "new phase" in cooperation between Ukraine and Germany.

The German-Ukrainian declaration notes that both states will build their relations in line with the norms of international law, on principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, the inviolability of borders, the peaceful settlement of disputes, rejection of the use of force or the threat of force, and respect for human rights, including the right of national minorities.

In the opinion of observers, other aspects of the Ukrainian-German dialogue on the banks of the Dnieper were more important—questions of disarmament and economic problems. Bonn and Kiev stressed the need to energetically continue the process of disarmament, both in the sphere of nuclear weapons and other kinds of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, and in conventional weapons. Judging by reports from the Ukrainian capital, the FRG is ready to support Ukraine in the fulfillment of its disarmament obligations.

The diplomatic formulas conceal Germany's concern—and, moreover, Kohl was representing the West as a whole in Kiev—over the Ukrainian leadership's inconsistent stance on the question of nuclear weapons stationed on its territory. Before the visit the German press pointed out that Kiev is not fulfilling its obligation to renounce this form of weapons. And the assurances of the leaders of unfallow Ukraine, given only a few days before the visit, that its parliament intends to ratify the START Treaty, elicited some satisfaction in Bonn.

However, I think that the concern of the FRG and Bonn's main Western ally, the United States, will be

removed only when not a single nuclear weapon remains on Ukrainian territory. Reports from U.S. special services on attempts by Kiev to decipher the launch codes of strategic missiles aimed at the United States "filtered through" to the German press on the eve of the visit and provoked the irritation of politicians and commentators in the Western mass media.

L. Kravchuk's refusal to make concessions on nuclear weapons questions in all his previous talks with B. Yeltsin does not, in the opinion of Western analysts, further strategic equilibrium in the world, which, they believe—and not without foundation—cannot sustain six, seven, or eight nuclear powers instead of the previous five. How far L. Kravchuk managed to convince H. Kohl of Ukraine's desire to be nuclear-free will become apparent in the near future. I think that any Western economic aid to Ukraine will be linked to Kiev's stance on nuclear affairs. The new separatist "power" will hardly be allowed let its finger fiddle with the [nuclear launch] button.

That H. Kohl's visit to Kiev was of a primarily political nature is suggested also by the fact that the program of the German chancellor's visit on the banks of the Dnieper had to be hastily rehashed. The planned signing of the framework agreement on the settlement of citizens of German nationality on Ukrainian territory did not take place. On the eve of H. Kohl's visit the sides simply did not manage to reach agreement on this extremely complex question.

All the signs suggest that further dialogue with Kiev on this ticklish subject is assessed extremely skeptically on the Rhine, in view of the fact that DER SPIEGEL, citing members of the FRG delegation, notes that "further talks are unthinkable." At the same time the magazine claims that Ukraine does not intend to keep the promise to receive 400,000 persons of German nationality given by L. Kravchuk during his visit last year to the FRG. Regarding promises, the leaders of the former CIS republics [as published] are lavish and quick off the mark with them. One leader can promise in the heat of an election campaign to lie down on the railroad tracks if prices are raised. Another leader, in the euphoria of a meeting as head of an independent state with all the honors due to protocol, can promise to find a "promised land"—not just anywhere but specifically in Chernobyl-hit Ukraine—for hundreds of thousands of people driven out by rising nationalism and military conflicts.

I do not know whether I will be right or not, but nevertheless I will make the assumption that the majority of people, both in Ukraine and in Russia, were not very stirred by the former USSR republics' demonstration of independence (from whom?!) at the end of last week. They are far more concerned with its its economic fruits—the purchasing power of the ruble and the karbovanets, prices in stores and markets, where the sales assistants tirelessly draw zeros on the price lists, how to feed the family and not be left without a job, and what will happen next. And meanwhile the elders are in flower in the gardens of Ukraine and Russia, potatoes are sprouting in the fields, and the land, if treated carefully, promises to yield a bumper harvest. Once again we find that, in the conditions of economic experiments here, there, and everywhere, in the transition to the market we should count only on ourselves.

Dutch Official Brings Equipment for Coal Mines

AU1706180393 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 16 Jun 93 p 5

[Volodymyr Teteruk report: "The West Made a Mistake When It Offered Assistance Exclusively to Russia,—Believes Wim Kok, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the Kingdom of the Netherlands"]

[Text] Speaking at a 15 June news conference that dealt with the results of meetings with Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, Supreme Council Chairman Ivan Plyushch, and Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma, Mr. Wim Kok pointed out that the main objective of his visit was to strengthen bilateral relations between the Netherlands and Ukraine. Since the Netherlands represents Ukraine's interests in the International Monetary Fund and in the World Bank, it is necessary, in the opinion of the deputy prime minister, to pay particular attention to Ukraine's cooperation with international financial organizations.

Mr. Kok understands Ukraine's economic problems. However, he emphasized that, over such a short period of time, one and one-half years, not a single state would be able to jump from a totalitarian to a civilized society. At the same time, continued Wim Kok, the Netherlands will do everything it can in order to open up the Western European market to Ukrainian goods and to equip our production sphere with advanced technologies.

In the course of his visit, Deputy Prime Minister Kok handed over to the Ukrainian side the first batch of equipment for ensuring the normal working of coal mines.

Today, Mr. Wim Kok is leaving for his homeland.

Iranian Minister Notes Interest in Industrial Cooperation

LD1606143393 Tehran IRNA in English 1355 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] Moscow, June 16, IRNA—Iranian Heavy Industries Minister Mohammad Nezhad-Hoseynian said in Kiev Wednesday [16 June] that Iran is fully ready to promote industrial cooperation with Ukraine.

In his first round of talks with Ukrainian Machine-Building Minister Dmytro Chernenko, Nezhad-Hoseynian referred to the understandings reached during the recent visit to Tehran of the Ukrainian president and hoped that the obstacles on the way of expansion of bilateral cooperation will be removed.

Nezhad-Hoseynian, who is in Ukraine since Monday heading a delegation, is to sign a protocol for industrial cooperation at the end of his five-day visit.

National Affairs

Strikes Continue; Committee Viewed With 'Reservations'

WS1806071993 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Thirteen out of the of 17 mines belonging to the Kryvbassruda Amalgamation are continuing with the strike. Some 40 miners from the Rodina mine have stopped their three-day strike in the pit. The government commission working in the region has laid the foundation for concrete decisions prior to the arrival of the prime minister. The report on the creation of the extraordinary committee has been received with reservations. According to Petro Kuznetsov, chairman of the oblast metallurgists trade union, the aim of its creation is not quite clear, because the committee is led by the prime minister, who has been dealing with the economy on a daily basis. Petro Protchenko, member of the Miners Trade Union Executive Committee, stated to a UNIAN correspondent that he is concerned by the term "extraordinary."

Government 'Experts' To Meet With Strikers

WS1806071293 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] A group of Cabinet of Ministers' experts led by Dmytro Chernenko, minister of machine building and military-industrial complex and conversion, arrived in Lugansk on 17 June. The experts will be working in the enterprises and banks and will meet with strikers' representatives in order to draft the government's proposals on stabilizing the situation. There have been reports that the town soviet of Pervomaysk has dissolved itself, while Bryankovsk Mayor Borys Dyatlov has resigned under the strikers' pressure.

Kharkov Workers Support Political Change

PM1806101993 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By Vitaliy Pidchenko and Aleksandr Dovgal from Kharkov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Pidchenko] The number of enterprises declaring their readiness to take part in a city-wide warning strike on 24 June is growing in Kharkov. What is more, there is a clearly discernible trend: Workers who only yesterday were putting forward mainly economic demands are today, following the Donetsk miners' example, insisting on political changes in the country.

[A. Naboka, housebuilding combine worker] We can see now that our Supreme Soviet and our president are incapable of resolving this situation.

[A. Shpynev, electrowelder at the DSK-1, housebuilding combine No. 1, and member of the oblast strike committee] What do I need such a government for, what do I need President Kravchuk for, what do I need the Supreme Soviet and the president's entourage, his team, for? They are incapable of carrying out their functions, they are not promoting our economy.

Metallurgical Industry Threatened by Miners' Strike

LD1706143693

[Editorial Report] Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian at 1310 GMT on 17 June broadcasts a 4-minute report from Dnepropetrovsk by correspondent Gennadiy Klimov that strikers are holding rallies in Krivoy Rog and Pavlograd. Klimov begins his report by saying:

"All 11 mines of the Pavlogradugol association are idle. The miners of Dnepropetrovsk oblast are expressing their support for the demands of the Donetsk miners and they are speaking with disappointment, one has to say, about the session of the Ukrainian parliament and about the very protracted debates by deputies—although there are now some results. The explosive potential that has developed in eastern Ukraine has clearly been underestimated."

Klimov goes on to say that Ukraine's Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma is due in Krivoy Rog tomorrow but that this may be too late for the metallurgical industry. He describes the situation at the Kalinin Chemical Coking Works in Dnepropetrovsk, which has been desperately working overtime to try to save coal and to stop its batteries from cooling down. "Today the decision was made to close the works," Klimov says. "Unless coal arrives at the chemical coking factory, and this is very unlikely, the works will break down. Coke batteries are destroyed when they cool down and cannot be repaired. This means that things will stop at the Petrovskiy Metallurgical Works as well."

Klimov adds: "The paralysis of metallurgy about which so much has been said within the walls of the Ukrainian parliament is, unfortunately, no longer a hypothesis today." He goes on: "Unfortunately, one has to state that tonight will be critical for the Ukrainian metallurgical industry, the most critical since the start of the Donetsk miners' strike started."

Klimov ends his report by saying that so far there has been little reaction in Dnepropetrovsk to the Ukrainian parliament's decision on a referendum.

Lvov Trade Unions 'Neutral' in Donbass Strike

WS1806092493 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] The trade unions of Lvov Oblast have decided to remain neutral in the conflict between Donbass miners and the government. According to Ihor Lusyshyn, deputy chairman of the Independent Trade Union of Lvov Oblast, the current crisis is a result of planned activity by the majority of the Supreme Soviet deputies and the pro-communist local management, who are inciting a social eruption while pretending to care about the welfare of people. He also expressed his bewilderment at the stance of the Ukrainian Trade Union Federation. The Executive Committee of Lvov Oblast Trade Unions has adopted a declaration calling public disobedience and strikes "lethal for the diseased economy and Ukrainian sovereignty." Similar declarations were adopted by the trade unions of Ivano-Frankovsk and Ternopol Oblasts.

Political Parties Favor Creation of Constitutional Assembly

AU1706173493 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 16 Jun 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Either the Assembly or Elections"]

[Text] Ukraine's Liberal, Liberal Democratic, Constitutional Democratic, and Social Democratic parties, the Party of Democratic Revival of Ukraine, and the Party of Free Peasants of Ukraine, as well as the Ukrainian Federation of Independent Trade Unions, have issued a joint statement, which reads that "Ukraine's political system, as a legacy of the Soviet Union, has proved incapable of properly responding to changes in society and has become the main obstacle to economic and political reforms." It, has, therefore caused the strike, which, in the opinion of the authors of the statement, is "an extreme means of putting pressure," whereas constitutional measures are needed. According to the statement, it is necessary to either immediately convene a constitutional assembly to adopt a constitution that would establish an efficient political system or immediately adopt a law on elections that would envisage multiparty elections and the adoption of a constitution by a new parliament. The authors of the statement favor the former option.

Kazakhstan

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Interviews Defense Minister

PM1806093193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jun 93 p 2

[Interview with Army General S.K. Nurmagambetov, Kazakh defense minister, by Oleg Falichev and Anatoliy Ladin under the "Interviewee of the Day" rubric; place and date not given: "Russia Is our Strategic Ally"]

[Text] **Personal Particulars**

Sagadat Kozhakhmetovich Nurmagambetov

Born 1924 in Alekseyevskiy Rayon, Tselinograd Oblast. Kazakh.

Took part in the Great Patriotic War, Hero of the Soviet Union.

Completed studies at Service Academy named for M.V. Frunze in 1949. Served in command positions in the Turkestan Military District. Was Central Asian Military District deputy commander from 1969 to 1989; has been first deputy commander of the Southern Group of Forces....

Since 1989 has been chairman of the republic council of veterans of war, labor, and the Armed Forces. In October 1991 he was appointed chairman of the republic's State Defense Committee by an edict of the Kazakhstan president, and Republic of Kazakhstan defense minister in May 1992. His rank is army general.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Comrade minister, you are perhaps the only leader of a military department in the CIS republics who has frontline experience behind him. How often do you make use of it? Has not the attitude of people of your generation changed completely toward the results of the Great Patriotic War, whose 48th anniversary we celebrated recently?

[Nurmagambetov] This experience testifies to a lot. First of all to the fact that our people, our entire happy family which used to be called the Soviet Union, was victorious. After all they achieved it over a well prepared and cunning enemy. That is a fact. I was in Berlin during May 1945. After we had finished storming the Reichs Chancellery—I was a battalion commander in the 301st division—there was suddenly an amazing silence... This will never be erased from my memory.

Now that the USSR has been divided up, we frontline soldiers want things to be like they were in the past with nothing dividing us. The most humane and brotherly of relations would continue. And the course which our president is steering in all questions is that of brotherhood and a strategic alliance.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] The well-known fact that Kazakhstan was the last to decide to form its own Armed Forces also clearly confirms this... What conclusions do you draw from the first year of their existence? Do you consider that the republic's Army may continue to exist autonomously in the future?

[Nurmagambetov] What strictly speaking is Kazakhstan's Army? It is a part of the Soviet Army. Officers and combat equipment were left behind. There is nothing here that has had to be conjured out of thin air or artificially shipped in from somewhere else. Yes, we were the last to create an Army. You see Kazakhstan's policy was directed toward not becoming separated from Russia.

During this year we have tried not to place any limits on the officers most of whom were originally from Russia, Ukraine, and other republics. So that they do not feel sold short after the USSR's collapse. We have tried to maintain combat readiness and to preserve what we had before. This is the first point.

As concerns the question's second part, no army carries out its tasks autonomously today. An army is a feature of a state. You cannot get by without one. But Russia and the Russian Army are the strategic allies of Kazakhstan as a whole and of our Army in particular. We cannot imagine going forward without them. At the moment a special Treaty on Military Cooperation is in preparation...

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Are you talking about the treaty between Kazakhstan and Russia? If this treaty proves to be effective and creates real conditions for reliable defense, can other republics became party to it if they so wish?

[Nurmagambetov] What we have here is a bilateral treaty between our countries. As regards the creation of a reliable system of collective security, I think it is essential. But supporting the common effort to create it is, as they say, a personal matter for each one of us. We are not going to foist anything on anybody...

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Not all participants at the last conference of CIS defense ministers in Moscow signed the draft decision on coordinating joint activities to create a collective security system. Does it not turn out that this is not half as simple a question as it seemed initially?

[Nurmagambetov] The Joint Armed Forces are a realistic venture. You see, when we talk about security as a whole, I cannot conceive of it without the Joint Armed Forces. But to speak at all about collective security is empty talk. What the CIS Joint Armed Forces will represent, and how they will be administered, is a subject for deep thought. It is necessary to do some thorough work on this, to weigh it up, and discuss it.

I, for example, am against defense ministers of the republics united by the Treaty on Collective Security taking turns in occupying the post of commander in chief of the future CIS Joint Armed Forces. With each, for example, staying in the post for a year... They will simply

find it difficult to get to grips with everything over that period of time. It seems to me that there should be a permanent administrative body and a permanent commander in chief.

I do not need to say that carrying out military service only on his own territory narrows a young person's outlook. He should get to know life. Like in the past when he could serve in the Far East, Ukraine, the North, and the South. But what about today? The strategic forces and testing ranges which are situated on our territory are on the whole brought up to strength by our own conscripted contingent. This is why commanders are coming to us with tears in their eyes and saying: Help us. But this is not the point. We should solve this problem on a wide scale with Russia or even at the level of the CIS.

It is also necessary to finally resolve problems of training officer cadres, and of their carrying out their military service. We have come to an agreement with Russia as to which service academies and schools our school leavers will be sent to, and about their annual numbers. At the same time a Supreme Soviet Law and Decree have, for example, been adopted in the Russian Federation, which say that officers have the right until 31 December 1994 to carry out their military service outside of the Russian Federation. One might ask: Where can they go after that? A person wishes to serve, nobody places any limitations on him, he receives a decent allowance, and has an apartment. He would like to go on serving. But he is told: Make a choice. It is after all no secret that it is now not so simple to transfer to Russia. If we are talking about a single defense area, why does Russian law forbid their military from carrying out their service on the territory of other states. Heck, should we now act in this same manner?

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] The Kazakhstani Army is equipped with modern weapons which in the future will clearly have to be replaced, modernized. How will this be achieved? Is cooperation with Russia and the CIS countries possible here? Or will cooperation with partners outside the former USSR be preferable?

[Nurmagambetov] We are not thinking about countries outside the former USSR at all. We concluded an agreement on questions of logistic and technical support which the heads of state signed. Such a bilateral agreement exists between Russia and Kazakhstan. If we talk about friendship and collective security, why should we buy up weapons and equipment in countries outside the former USSR? Or get them serviced there?

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] The Kazakhstan Army, like the republic itself, is multinational. Is this in any way taken into consideration when making appointments? Is there a problem with maintaining the traditions of friendship and comradeship among the troops of the various nationalities?

[Nurmagambetov] You have made a correct observation: About 100 nations and peoples live in the republic. It is the leadership's and the president's policy for there to be equilibrium and no inconsistencies, no supremacy of anyone over anyone else.

As far as officer personnel is concerned, we make appointments to posts not according to nationality but suitability. He who works well is promoted. For example everyone has read the president's edict: Corps Commander Major General Shcherbakov has been given the rank of lieutenant general. It did not say there that if he was a Russian he should not be given the rank. This would be stupid. I must repeat that the officer personnel is for the most part of Russian origin. They serve well. So we bring the Army up to strength with men of various national origins. The same is true of the educational process. We are carrying on all that was best in the traditions of the Russian, Soviet Army. I see nothing bad in that.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] The post of republic minister of defense obliges you, so to speak, to be in the public eye all the time. Then your subordinates find it necessary to approach you personally about some questions. Can they do this? Are you accessible?

[Nurmagambetov] It seems to me that as a person I am the same as I was before. I must emphasize, as a person. Neither rank nor position should spoil this, I think. If they do, this is bad. As concerns the question—am I accessible to everybody, for example, sitting in my office, I cannot say that I am. Not because I do not want to receive this or that visitor, but simply owing to my busy program. Each minute and hour is accounted for. Moreover, it is necessary to spend more time with the troops. All the more so as since the USSR's disintegration, our enormous material resources have been left without the requisite supervision. Many "managers" [khozyain] have emerged. It is not only undisciplined officers who have emerged but discredited ones as well, who have literally began to squander our material wealth. All this worries me and a lot has to be done to preserve this wealth.

Well, what matters do people approach me about? The main question in large barracks is, of course, accommodations. We are planning to bring 300 apartments into commission in Almaty this year. The state has allotted us money and we are buying them up. We are also building them ourselves.

The second problematic question is that of personnel. The exodus of officers is definitely worrying to us. Many, for example, have left for Ukraine. I would not say that there has been a great exodus to Russia. We have concluded an agreement with it. Were it not for the Russian Federation parliament's decision which I have mentioned, many would serve longer. But I think that this question will be also be resolved.

The third problem is that of logistic support. Since last year we have begun to deal with the question of clothing.

Still, the republic is large. We found enterprises which took our orders. They are now going full steam ahead producing clothing...

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Have the insignia, the style of the clothing changed?

[Nurmagambetov] We are not changing anything at the moment, as we supported and continue to support the Joint Armed Forces. And we were never in any hurry to tear ourselves away or differ from them in any way. We are not for the moment introducing any uniform and insignia of our own.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] You are, so to say, a statesman. But you also have spare time. What do you do in it?

[Nurmagambetov] To be frank I almost have no spare time. This is bad of course. It is necessary to educate oneself, to broaden one's horizons. You can never just continue to do what you have always done—that is wrong. I enjoy reading encyclopedia articles. I have 50 volumes of the Great Soviet Encyclopedia, geographical dictionaries... I read fictional literature. And I like most of all the Russian classics...

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] You may have old friends from the front who have remained in Russia and to whom you would like to pass on a goodwill message through the newspaper?

[Nurmagambetov] I have many friends not just in Russia but also in Ukraine: in Odessa and Donetsk. This year is the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Donetsk. I would like to go there in September if I can.

My division commander Major General Vladimir Semenovich Antonov is still alive. He lives is in Moscow. I was a platoon, company, battalion commander under him... I keep in contact and keep up a permanent correspondence with Major General Mikhail Ivanovich Safonov. He is the former chief of staff of our division and lives in Saratov.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] One last question, Sagadat Kozhakhmetovich. We know that you have recommended that subunits, Officers' Clubs, clubs, and libraries subscribe to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. What motivated this decision?

[Nurmagambetov] It is a result of everything we have been talking about. If we wish to have Joint Armed Forces, if we talk about friendship among peoples, and we do not wish to tear ourselves away from each other, the only military printed organ which unifies was and continues to be KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. Moreover, its staff are qualified, it contains objective information, reflects experience of organizational development in the Armed Forces and the achievements of military science... I , for example, have been reading KRASNAYA ZVEZDA since 1942. That is for 51 years now. It is necessary for it to have more pieces on exchanging experience, education, and combat training...

We will continue to subscribe not only to your newspaper but also to Russian Army journals. After all Russia is our strategic ally.

Tajikistan

Results of Partial Elections to Supreme Soviet Reported

LD1706134093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1155 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By TIA Khovar correspondent Negmat Ochilov for TASS]

[Text] Dushanbe, 17 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—The Republic of Tajikistan's Central Electoral Commission has published the results of the partial elections on 13 June of deputies to parliament to replace those deputies who have left.

According to the results of the vote, deputies were elected in 17 electoral districts. In one district none of the three candidates received the necessary number of votes, and repeat voting is scheduled to take place within the next two weeks. According to a report by the republican Electoral Commission, Abdumalik Abdulladzhanov, head of the Government of Tajikistan; Makhmadnazar Salikhov, the country's general procurator; Kayum Kavmidinov, chairman of the republic's national bank; and others were elected people's deputies of Tajikistan.

Dushanbe Tightens Emergency Regulations

LD1406193493 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The state of emergency regulations have been tightened in the Tajik capital today. People are only allowed to enter Dushanbe if they have written authorization for a business visit or a special pass signed by the head of the oblast or the city department of the Interior Ministry. On 18 June, the number of outposts and checkpoints at entrances to the city, of which there are 20 at present, is to be doubled.

Abdulladzhanov Leaves on Visit to Moscow

LD1506143993 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Russian 1300 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Abdumalik Abdulladzhanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Tajikistan, today left for Moscow. The aim of the visit by the head of government is the implementation of social and political agreements between the two friendly countries, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan.

Two Russian Border Guards Killed on Afghan Border

LD1806084193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0733 GMT 18 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Jun—Two Russian border guards were killed and one was wounded on Thursday [17 June] in a sector of one of the posts of the Pyandzh border detachment of the group of Russian border troops in Tajikistan. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told by Colonel Yevgeniy Znamenskiy, an official at the press service of the Russian border troops, that it happened when the border guards came under small arms fire from the Afghan side.

Rakhmanov Congratulates Iranian President

LD1706020993 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] A congratulatory telegram was sent today by Imamali Rakhmanov, the head of state and chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan, to Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi- Rafsanjani, which says in part: Please accept my sincere congratulations on the occasion of your reelection as president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. I am confident that friendly relations between the newly independent republic of Tajikistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran will develop further.

Uzbekistan

Kyrgyz Delegation Signs Joint Trade, Economic Accords

LD1706211493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2044 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Alfred Baranov]

[Text] Tashkent June 17 TASS—The visit to Uzbekistan by an official government delegation of the Kyrgyz republic has ended with the signing of a package of documents concerning bilateral contacts between the two neighbouring states in various fields.

During the two-day talks the sides reached important accords on trade and economic cooperation, on the redrafting of indebtedness under credits, on non-commercial payments, and mutual settlement arrangements in view of the introduction of Kyrgyzstan's own national currency—the som.

The documents envisage that the two sides shall ensure the reciprocal deliveries of products and the provision of services on a balanced basis, granting the most-favoured-nation treatment to each other as regards the import and export of goods. Settlements shall be made on the basis of contracts at world prices and in freely convertible currency.

The government of the Kyrgyz republic recognises and undertakes to pay a state debt, amounting to 13.3 million U.S. dollars, to the Republic of Uzbekistan. The debt is to be repaid in convertible currency and in kind according to a mutually agreed-upon range of goods.

Citizens and legal entities shall be guaranteed a free transfer of money in national currencies on non-commercial operations through correspondent accounts at the central banks of the two states. A mechanism for cooperation on other important matters concerning bilateral cooperation was determined as well.

Measures Taken To Halt Arms Smuggling From Tajikistan

LD1806060393 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0400 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] As our correspondent reports from Tashkent, the republic's law and order bodies have been forced to take urgent measures to halt the illegal import into and transport across Uzbekistan of firearms from Tajikistan. Control points have been set up in border areas where all trains from Dushanbe are being carefully searched.

Government Cuts Gas Supplies To Kazakhstan

LD1406101693 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0840 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Mayak correspondent reports that Uzbekistan has sharply reduced gas supplies to Kazakhstan, supplying only 80,000 cubic meters per hour instead of 229,000 cubic meters. This is because of the insolvency of consumers in south Kazakhstan, who since the beginning of the year, have run up a debt of 8,000 billion rubles to Uzbek suppliers. Local observers believe Uzbekistan could have taken even harsher measures, but Uzbek enterprises also owe huge sums to south Kazakhstan manufacturers for their output. We shall clearly have to wait for the CIS countries economic union which will find some legal solution to the problem of how to organize interstate payments.

Central Bank Chairman: No Plans To Introduce Currency

LD1606201293 Tashkent UZBEKISTAN APN in Russian 1106 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] [no dateline as received] The national news agency of Uzbekistan has published an interview with Central Bank Chairman Fayzula Mullazhanov in which he once again confirms that Uzbekistan does not intend in the near future to introduce its own currency. There are certain economic laws, the infringement of which is impermissible, said Mullazhanov. The move to the national currency will considerably worsen the state of the balance of payments of the republic with CIS countries. It will complicate the Uzbekistan's enterprises ability to settle with partners from other countries. The introduction of our own currency, according to the head of the Central Bank, will require accounts to be paid in freely convertible currency, which will inevitably bring a structural crisis [passage indistinct]

Armenia

Yerevan Reports Azerbaijani Attacks on Karabakh

NC1706153593 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Dear listeners, we now report on the latest incidents in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan. [passage indistinct]

The frequent exchanges of fire in Nagorno-Karabakh lasted a long time, giving way to military operations. Azerbaijan's military units have launched large-scale attacks on almost every battlefront in Nagorno-Karabakh and fired on residential areas in NKR's border area with heavy artillery. The Armenian Defense Forces have repulsed the attacks and forced the enemy units to retreat after suffering many casualties on every battlefront. The enemy units have not relinquished their aggressive activities. They are trying to penetrate Armenian defense lines.

After a lull of two months, Azerbaijan has resumed its attacks. Azerbaijan's military units bombarded NKR defense positions and border towns in Mardakertskiy and Gadrutskiy Rayons this morning. Several peaceful residents were killed or wounded in the attacks. NKR defense headquarters has revealed that the Armenian forces are obstructing the enemy attacks. Azerbaijan's military forces are using many heavy military vehicles in their onslaughts. The main clashes are in Mardakertskiy Rayon, particularly around Gunotag, [name indistinct], Nerkin-Khoratag, and Mardakert.

Azerbaijan has claimed that the Armenian forces maintained their attacks against Agdam, but the Azerbaijani units warded off their offensive. Nagorno-Karabakh was fired on from Agdam with various types of arms in the past. Not satisfied with that, the enemy launched large-scale attacks on Nagorno-Karabakh. The Armenian Defense Forces counterattacked to silence enemy fire emplacements. There was nothing else to be done. Retaliatory operations are being carried out to maintain the people's security. Considering the developments, blaming the Armenian side is impossible.

The officials in neighboring Azerbaijan are unable to control their Army because of the political tension in that republic. NKR leaders have done everything to end the fighting, but Azerbaijan's leaders and chauvinist circles have maintained their policy of force. They have obstructed the international effort to end the dispute between the two sides. When any opportunity has arisen to find a peaceful negotiated solution to the dispute, Azerbaijan's provocative activities have worsened the tension. That is the case now. The reports from Nagorno-Karabakh indicate the situation in the NKR is tense.

No serious incident occurred on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan last night or yesterday. The only incident was on the night of 15 June, when, according to the Armenian Defense Ministry, Armenian positions around (Khndzoresk) in Vaykskiy Rayon were fired on from the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic. No one was hurt.

President Congratulates New Karabakh Leader

NC1706185493 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1700 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan sent a congratulatory message to Karen Baburyan, acting chairman of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] Supreme Soviet.

The cable says:

Esteemed Karen Baburyan, I wholeheartedly congratulate you on being elected acting chairman of the NKR Supreme Soviet. At this historic and fateful moment for the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh and the entire Armenian people, you assume an enormous responsibility by clearly seeing the difficulties in the problems ahead of you.

Your first step as acting chairman of the NKR Supreme Soviet is noteworthy and attests not only to your political acumen and personal courage, but also to the responsibility you feel for the fate of the people of Karabakh.

I believe that as the political leader of the NKR, you will do everything to stop the bloodshed and find an exclusively political solution to the Karabakh problem.

Esteemed Baburyan, in the prevailing complex situation, close cooperation between us is essential in every field, so I am inviting you to pay an official visit to Armenia.

Ter-Petrosyan's Mission to Stepanakert Viewed

PM1806115593 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jun 93 p 1

[V. Aloyan report: "Fragile Peace Better Than Strong Defense"]

[Text] The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] leadership took a long time to respond to the proposals of the CSCE's Minsk group charged with finding a settlement of the Karabakh problem but simply failed to reach a single opinion. A split occurred between the NKR's leadership and the defense army's command personnel, a split which has developed into an internal political crisis. Here the Armenian president's patience cracked.

Ter-Petrosyan flew for the first time as president to Stepanakert and returned from there with a letter signed by... Karen Baburyan, the new acting chairman of the Supreme Soviet.

In short, Ter-Petrosyan staked everything, seeing that he had acquired room for maneuvering—the basic differences between his position and that of the NKR leadership seeming finally to have been removed. Two outcomes are possible in this situation: Either the president

manages with the help of the CSCE or other mediators to secure at least a fragile peace in the region and lift the blockade on Armenia, or Ter-Petrosyan resigns and the war goes on until a victorious conclusion. There is just one sentence printed on the Dashmaks' scarlet party banner (incidentally, the former acting chairman of the NKR Supreme Soviet, Georgiy Petrosyan, is a member of the party): "Liberty or Death".

It is difficult to say as yet how events will develop. One thing is clear, however: Any force seeking power either in Azerbaijan or Armenia will endeavor to obtain such a powerful trump card as victory over Karabakh. For the time being, however, the initiators of the peace-making process have deemed it illogical to demand a month's postponement on the part of Stepanakert and have agreed to 10 days.

Azerbaijan

President Leaves Baku To 'Restore Civil Peace'

NC1806092393 Baku TURAN in English 0857 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Baku June 18 (TURAN)—At night from June 17 to 18 president of Azerbaijan left for Nakhichevan. As executive assistant of president apparatus informed TURAN agency, that was made "in order to restore civil peace and personal security of the president". It was also noted, that "Abulfaz Elchibey didn't send his resignation and he was not intended to do that".

Rebels subdivisions and government forces are gradually parting in Adzhikabul. The mutineers are coming back to Gyandzha and government forces to Baku, as official sources informed TURAN agency. But there is no movement in Shemakha, where insurgents and opposite to them government forces are located.

Tension relaxed also in Tauzskiy region, where rebels bombarded two peaceful villages. Today early in the morning, Surat Guseynov's detachments moved from Tauzskiy to Gyandzha.

The source, close to the guidance of Azerbaijan reported, that late last night many-sided consultations, where President Elchibey, Etibar Mamedov and Geydar Aliyev participated, had been continuing. Phone talks with Surat Guseynov were holding too. If taken into account, that rebels subdivisions started to move their positions and to come back to Gyandzha, one can draw a conclusion, that compromise was found. In favour of this is also speaking the argument, that official Baku filled the office of Gyandzha executive power with Hadzhi Vagif, the person, appointed to this office by Surat Guseynov.

Together with this, the cause of such sudden Elchibey's departure to Nakhichevan is obviously clear.

Consults Turkish Prime Minister

TA1806091893 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 0900 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Azerbaijani President Abulfaz Elchibey, whose resignation was demanded by rebels, has left the capital Baku for Nakhichevan. According to a statement issued by the president's office, Elchibey left Baku to prevent a civil war following the escalation of tension in the country. The statement noted that Elchibey did not resign and did not appoint an acting president.

The Azerbaijani-Turkish agency reports that Elchibey spoke to Acting Prime Minister Erdal Inonu on the telephone last night and this morning and said that he is in a very difficult situation. According to the agency, Elchibey stated that he does not want to shed the blood of brothers and that, therefore, he will not order the army to act against the rebels.

The deadline for the peaceful solution of the problem, which was submitted to the government by former Army Corps Commander Surat Guseynov, who started a rebellion asking for the resignation of the administration in Azerbaijan, ends today.

'Reins of Government' Pass to Aliyev

NC1806092793 Baku TURAN in English 0857 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, June 18 (TURAN)—This morning at the sitting of the Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan the conference of the heads of all the ministries and departments of the Republic started. The Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Geydar Aliyev holds the conference.

As TURAN agency was reported at the press-service of the supreme Soviet, the aim of the conference is to acquaint the head of the parliament with the situation in all the spheres of economy of Azerbaijan.

Taking into account the absence of the president of the republic in Baku and the vacancy to the post of the prime-minister, this information means, that the reins of government in Azerbaijan pass into the hands of G. Aliyev. For how long will that last and how serious is it, will depend on who will be appointed the prime- minister and when will it happen.

Aliyev Delivers TV Address

LD1806092593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0857 GMT 18 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Excerpt] Baku, 18 Jun—Geydar Aliyev, who was elected chairman of the Supreme Soviet on 15 June, has described the situation in Azerbaijan as extremely difficult. Speaking on national television at midday today, he said that he believes, nevertheless, in the wisdom of the Azerbaijani people, who have been through many trials lately. [passage omitted]

[Paris AFP in English at 0902 GMT on 18 June adds: "Azerbaijan's former communist leader Geydar Aliyev, elected parliamentary speaker this week, announced Friday that he was assuming full powers as head of state.

["'I am assuming the responsibilities and duties as head of state in line with provisions of the constitution,' Aliyev announced in a television address.

["His announcement came after Azerbaijani President Abulfaz Elchibey fled the capital of Baku overnight without handing in his resignation, the presidential press office said.

["The 70-year-old former communist boss said Elchibey did not inform him of his departure from Baku and that he did not know of Elchibey's whereabouts.

["Elchibey travelled to Nakhichevan, an Azeri enclave sandwiched between Armenia, Turkey and Iran, according to a report by Azerbaijani television.

["The embattled leader fled the capital before an ultimatum from rebel forces for his resignation ran out at midnight Thursday.

["The rebel military unit loyal to renegade commander Surat Guseynov was said to have retreated from its positions near the regional center of Adzhikabul, located 120 kilometers (75 miles) from the capital, ITAR-TASS reported.

["The forces were only a few kilometers (miles) apart from government troops sent by Elchibey to crush the rebellion.

["A spokesman for Elchibey said in a statement read on Azerbaijani television that the president had fled Baku out of concern for his own personal safety and that of civilians in Baku.

["The dramatic turn of events followed a failed attempt by government troops earlier this month to disarm the rebel unit led by Guseynov.

["About 70 people died and 200 were injured in clashes between the government troops and the rebel forces, prompting demands by Guseynov and his men that Elchibey and his entourage resign."]

Turkish Envoy Questions Legality of Power Transfer

TA1806113793 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1000 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Remarks by Turkish Ambassador to Azerbaijan Altan Karamanoglu on the latest developments in Azerbaijan on 18 June—recorded]

[Text] The situation in Baku is tense. It is very tense, but tranquillity prevails. The people are going about their daily lives. According to a report we received today, President Abulfaz Elchibey left for the village of Ordubad, in Nakhichevan, his birthplace, in a bid to ensure his personal security. He is there. After Elchibey left Baku, Geydar Aliyev announced that he is assuming all the authorities. However, we believe that according to the Azerbaijani Constitution, there is a legal question here. Since the Azerbaijani president has not left the country, we do not know how it will be constitutionally possible for the Supreme Soviet chairman to be the acting president. This is a question that the Azerbaijanis themselves must consider.

Turkey believes that Azerbaijan should solve its own domestic problems provided it remains within a legal framework. No doubt you are well aware that after gaining its independence, Azerbaijan became a member of the United Nations, the CSCE, and other international organizations. It took the necessary steps toward the establishment of a democratic and secular state of law. It is Turkey's wish that Azerbaijan will continue on this path and maintain the existence of a legal democratic republic. We also hope that blood will not be shed in Azerbaijan and that this problem will be solved peacefully through legal means. This is our wish and hope.

Guseynov Forces Capture Shemakha

LD1706124593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1235 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents]

[Text] Baku June 17 TASS—Militants of rebel Azeri commander Surat Guseynov have seized yet another city close to Baku which allows them to advance to the capital from two directions, according to unconfirmed reports.

Unofficial reports said Guseynov took over the district centre of Shemakha, 120 kilometres away from Baku. Another city which has been under his control for three days is the district centre of Adjikabul.

However, there was no immediate confirmation of the report. The press service of the president of Azerbaijan said the information "needs to be thoroughly verified", while Guseynov's spokesman Aypar Aliyev refused in a telephone interview with TASS to either confirm or deny the report on the siezure of Shemakha.

The Defence Ministry also had no comments.

Azeri independent mass media reported on Thursday that shooting between Guseynov's rebels and government forces ceased because Guseynov has moved up to June 17 the deadline for meeting his demands which include the resignation of the president and an urgent session of the parliament.

The "IZVESTIYA" newspaper commented on Wednesday that most Azeris believe Guseynov has gone too far in demanding the resignation of Abulfaz Elchibey.

The situation in the southern city of Lenkoran which is under control of Alikram Gumbatov, a former ally of the

president, did not change. Gumbatov told the Baku-based "ZERKALO" newspaper on Thursday that he fully supports the demands of Guseynov, but said any secession of the region from Azerbaijan, its unification with Iran or the creation of an independent republic is out of question.

There was no official reaction to the Lenkoran events yet, however the use of force against Gumbatov is exluded unless he poses a military threat to Baku.

The situation in the Azeri capital is quiet and well-informed sources said the parliament may hold a session in the near future. [sentence as received] It will discuss the appointment of a new prime minister to replace Panakh Guseynov who had resigned.

Etibar Mamedov, a leader of the opposition, is among the most possible candidates to the post, however his entourage said he had not yet responded to the proposal to become the head of government and continues consultations with various political forces.

Guseynov Insists 'Demands Remain Unchanged'

PM1706131593 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jun 93 p 1

[Unattributed interview with Colonel Surat Guseynov; place and date not given: "'But He, the Mutineer, Summons Up the Storm!' Surat Guseynov Has Given a Brief Interview"]

[Text] [Guseynov] The aim of the operation carried out in Gyandzha was to physically eliminate me. It was planned in advance. Subunits of six categories of troops took part in the operation. And the fact that the general prosecutor of Azerbaijan and the deputy ministers of the "power" ministries were present in Gyandzha at that time gives grounds for supposing that the operation was carried out with the head of state's authorization.

At 1030 on 4 June I arrived at the unit and tried to prevent any escalation of the conflict. But the attackers refused to heed the voice of reason, and I then gave the command to return fire and go onto the offensive. Many people in the republic today are talking about hostages. I hold no hostages. The point is I let the soldiers of the disarmed subunits go home. Those who expressed a desire to join us were enlisted into the brigade.

As far as the general prosecutor and the deputy ministers are concerned, they are detained on the charge of organizing the bloodshed and are at the disposal of the military prosecutor. My demands remain unchanged: the resignation of the republic leadership, the punishment of those to blame for the bloodshed in Gyandzha, and the convening of an emergency session of Azerbaijan, which will give a political assessment of the present authorities' actions. If my demands are not met, I reserve the right to implement them myself, employing all acceptable measures to do so.

Guseynov Troops' Reportedly Retreat

NC1806102793 Baku AZERTAC in English 0950 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Baku, June 18 (AZERTAC)—The government forces and troops of the former commander of the national army, S. Guseynov retrieved [as received] to their initial position this morning. About 9 a.m. the government army had been moving along the highway to Baku. S. Guseynovs troops return to the centre of the Adzhikabul district which is situated 120 kilometers far from Baku. According to the national television, on the eve there was a bitter skirmish between both the sides in the Tauzskiy District on the west of Azerbaijan. The skirmish resulted in casualties among local civil population and a number of damaged houses. The government army repulsed the attack of S. Guseynovs troops. Neither government officials nor independent experts have not risked to give their prognosis about the development of the present situation. Today is the expiry of the period of the ultimatum given to the government by S. Guseynov. One of the main demands is resignation of the president, otherwise Mr. Guseynov will have to seize Baku. What will be the response of Abulfaz Elchibey? [passage omitted]

Internal Affairs, National Security Ministers Replaced

NC1806055293 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 0400 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] In accordance with the president's decree, Abdullah Allakhverdiyev has been relieved of his responsibilities as internal affairs minister. The responsibility for executing his duties has been transferred to Deputy Internal Affairs Minister M. Bakhtiyar ogly Dzhavadov. Fakhreddin Hayat ogly Takhmazov has been relieved of his responsibilities as national security minister. The responsibility for executing his duties has been transferred to Deputy National Security Minister Namik Hasib ogly Abbasov. In accordance with the president's decree, Ragib Suleyman ogly Veliyev has been appointed head of the Gyandzha city executive authority. Irfan Islam ogly Kadimov has been removed from that post.

Gummetov Denies Plan To Join Iran, Create Republic

LD1806052393 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0500 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] In an interview with the Baku opposition newspaper ZERKALO, Lenkoran leader Alikram Gummetov denied accusations of separatism. Gummetov, who seized power in Lenkoran a few days ago, said that he does not plan to join neighboring Iran nor to create an independent republic. Gummetov also told correspondents about his support for rebel Gyandzha leader Surat Guseynov.

Ministry Condemns Ter-Petrosyan's Visit to Stepanakert

LD1706141093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1335 GMT 17 Jun 93

[By AZERTAC correspondent Dzhamilia Kuliyeva for TASS]

[Text] Baku, 17 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—The Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry describes "the uninvited visit by Levon Ter-Petrosyan, president of Armenia, to the city of Stepanakert" on 13 June as "an unprecedented act in the contemporary history of interstate relations and a glaring violation of the universally accepted norms of conduct which exist in a civilized world". In connection with this, the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry today sent a protest note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Armenian Republic. "The visit," the document stresses, "no matter under what 'plausible' pretext it might take place, was made by the president of Armenia without an invitation and without the knowledge of the authorities of Azerbaijan—a state with which Ter-Petrosyan's country is de facto in a state of war—and is to be resolutely condemned."

Defense Ministry Says Armenian Offensive Continues

NC1806091993 Baku TURAN in English 0857 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, June 18 (TURAN)—As Azerbaijan Defense Ministry reported, the offensive on Agdam that started yesterday continues. Last night and this morning Armenian artillery was intensively firing the town and the positions of Azerbaijan forces. At 11 A.M. Armenian Army units resumed their offensive on the south and north of Agdam. At the same time, the Armenian army offensive on the district center Agdere 30 km south of Agdam was also resumed. The fights continue.

3,000 Armenian Troops Said Attacking Agdam

NC1706153093 Baku TURAN in English 1518 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, June 17 (TURAN)—As the press-service of the president of Azerbaijan has just informed today at 16 o clock local time Armenian Army began a storm of Agdam town.

The attack is in two directions: from the north and from the south. Tens of armoured equipment units and about three thousand soldiers take part in the attack.

Armenian subunits attacking from the north try to cut off the course between Agdam and Agdere [Mardakert] and surround Agdam.

Karabakh Forces Reach Outskirts of Agdam

LD1706210793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1755 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report by AZERTAC correspondent Natan Barskiy for TASS]

[Text] Baku, 17 Jun—Taking advantage of the internal instability in Azerbaijan, Armenian forces today continued their offensive against Agdam. The AZERTAC correspondent was informed at the press service of the republic's president that Armenian units have reached the southern approaches to the town. This morning two SU-25 ground-attack aircraft of the Armenian air force fired projectiles at positions occupied by the Azerbaijani defense force. There are killed and wounded.

Observers in Baku consider that after signing the CSCE peace plan Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh have declined to implement it. In trying to justify the offensive against Agdamskiy Rayon as being actions by subunits not under its control Yerevan is thereby continuing to put forceful pressure on Azerbaijan by stepping up military operations. At the Azerbaijan Foreign Ministry it was stated with regret that there has not yet been any reaction to the new offensive by Armenian forces on the part of the CSCE member countries, which are engaged on the problem of the Armenian- Azerbaijani conflict.

Government Urges UN Sanctions Against Armenia

LD1706214193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1925 GMT 17 Jun 93

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[Text] UN, 17 Jun (TASS)—Azerbaijan has again called on the UN Security Council that "appropriate sanctions envisaged by the UN Charter should be applied against Armenia as an aggressor state." That was said in a statement of the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry circulated at the UN Headquarters today as a Security Council document.

On 12 June, the document says, the Armenian side undertook an offensive against Agdamskiy and Agdzhabedinskiy rayons in Azerbaijan using combat aircraft, helicopters, tanks, and rocket artillery. On 14 June Armenian armed forces went over to a large-scale offensive on 11 Azerbaijani villages. "This offensive is taking place at a time when the United States, Russia, and Turkey twice came forward with peace initiatives, and there is a decision of the CSCE 'Nine Plus One' group on the 'Schedule of emergency measures,' to which Azerbaijan replied positively".

The document stresses that it was necessary to apply sanctions in order "to make Armenia stop systematically disrupting peace initiatives and finally set up a real mechanism for fulfilling the adopted decisions."

Latvia

Composition of Fifth Saeima Officially Announced

LD1706153893 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1215 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Excerpts] A news conference of the Central Electoral Commission on the results of elections to the fifth Saeima has now begun in the Red Hall of the Supreme Council. Atis Kramins, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, explains why it has taken so long to get the final results:

[Kramins] [passage omitted] We cannot show you today all the election protocols together, because they amount to quite a large bunch of materials. However, because people are very keen to know that, and everyone wants to know that, we can officially name today those who made it through to the Saeima, to name deputies from those parties which won seats in the Saeima, to give their list.

On behalf of the Electoral Commission we would like to congratulate all the parties which overcame the four percent barrier [necessary to get into the Saeima]. We would like to congratulate those 100 candidates out of 400, I am sorry, out of 784 candidates who tried to compete for the 100 seats in the Saeima, to congratulate those 100 people who won this election, to wish them successful and productive work in the Saeima for the further prosperity of our Latvia.

And now I would like to give the floor to Secretary of the Commission Silvija Dreimane so that she can read the names of these 100 deputies to the Saeima.

[Dreimane] So, here is the list of deputies to the fifth Saeima.

The election coalition For the Fatherland and Freedom: Ilmars Dalins, Maris Grinblats, Roberts Milbergs, Aleksandrs Petersons, Juris Sinka, Janis Straume.

The Latvian Peasants' Union: Aivars Berkis, Gundars Berzins, Oskars Griks, Visvaldis Varnesis Klive, Janis Kokins, Voldemars Novoksanovs, Gunars Resnais, Janis Ritenis, Andris Rozentals, Zigurds Tomins, Janis Arvaldis, Mikelis Tupesis, Guntis Ulmanis.

The Latvian National Independence Movement: Eduards Berklavs, Maris Budovskis, Imants Kalnins, Viesturs Karnups, Aleksandrs Kirsteins, Odisejs Kostanda, Andrejs Krastins, Janina Kusnere, Aristids Lambergs, Velta Purina, Anna Seile, Dainis Stalts, Peteris Tabuns, Joachims Zigerists, Alfreds Zigurs.

The Democratic Center Party: Alfreds Cepans, Olga Drege, Ilga Gore, Aivars Kreituss, Karlis Leiskalns.

The Latvian Union of Christian Democrats: Olafs Bruvers, Peteris Cimdins, Aivars Jerumanis, Aida Predele, Anta Rugate, Andris Saulitis.

The Harmony for Latvia-Revival for the National Economy election alliance: Andris Ameriks, Vilnis Edvins Dresis, Igors Bukovskis, Irena Folkmane, Juris Janeks, Ernests Jurkans, Janis Jurkans, Eriks Kaza, Edvins Kide, Ludmila Kuprijanova, Janis Lucans, Leonards Stacs, Jevgenijs Zoscerinskis.

The Equal Rights Movement: Aleksandrs Bartasevics, Marcijans Bekasovs, Galina Fedorova, Nikolajs Krasohins, Irina Rajuskina, Alfreds Rubiks, Juris Stroganovs.

The Way of Latvia: Georgs Andrejevs, Romans Apsitis, Dzintars Abekis, Indulis Berzins, Valdis Birkavs, Inese Birzniece, Imants Daudiss, Peteris Elferts, Aivars Endzins, Maris Gailis, Anatolijs Gorbunovs, Maris Graudins, Andris Gutmanis, Edvins Inkens, Andris Kadekis, Ojars Kehris, Girts Valdis Kristovskis, Vilis Kristofans, Andris Kesteris, Janis Lazdins, Egils Levits, Andris Ligotnis, Ruta Marjasa, Gunars Mejerovics, Uldis Osis, Andrejs Pantelejevs, Olgerts Pavlovskis, Andris Piebalgs, Egils Radzins, Antons Seiks, Ivars Silars, Andrejs Silins, Anita Stankevica, Valdis Pavlovskis, Janis Vaivads, and Martins Virsis.

So then, let me also join Mr. Kramins in congratulating all the deputies elected to the new fifth Saeima. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Returns From France Visit

LD1606231293 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1700 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] Latvian Defense Minister Talavs Jundzis returned from a visit to France today. At a news conference at Riga Airport he told journalists that in Paris he had met French President Francois Mitterrand and French Defense Minister Francois Leotard. Jundzis has in the name of the Latvian Government signed an interstate agreement to send French military-technical advisers to Latvia. This agreement gives a documentary foundation to the status of the French adviser Gilles Guitarre, who has been working for a month in Latvia and Lithuania. At the same time, a general interstate treaty on military cooperation between Latvia and France is being prepared.

However, in view of everything, it will be signed after Latvia has a new government in place. This, though, will not hinder French Defense Minister Francois Leotard from making an official visit to Latvia from 2 to 4 July.

Russian Army Unit 'Illegally' Importing Aviation Fuel

LD1606220693 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1700 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] The Russian Army unit stationed at Viestura Prospekts 2, in Riga has been illegally importing and preparing aboard the Swedish ship Dalanaes 500 tonnes of aviation fuel for export to Sweden, BNS was informed by Ilgonis Upmalis, the head of the Latvian Bureau for Monitoring the Withdrawal of the Russian Army. As Upmalis explained, in accordance with one of the interstate agreements between Latvia and Russia signed in Moscow on 2 June, Russia may import fuel into Latvia only for the needs of Army units stationed here and by special permission.

Economic Cooperation Agreement Signed With Armenia

LD1506202193 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1700 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Visvaldis Kristaps, acting minister of foreign trade, and Tigran Grigoryan, minister of trade of the Republic of Armenia, signed an agreement (?at their meeting) today on principles of trade and economic cooperation. In signing this agreement, Latvia and Armenia (?undertake to observe) the principles of equality, mutual benefit and interest, as well as the norms of international law, and to take the correct and appropriate measures to develop and broaden trade and economic relations between the two countries.

Lithuania

New Parliament Leadership Established

LD1806101093 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2130 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] The leadership of the Lithuanian Parliament was finally formed today. Three of the five member leadership, including the Chairman of Parliament, are representatives of the ruling Democratic Labour Party. Today the Lithuanian Parliament voted into the post of Deputy Chairman of Parliament, a member of the Democratic Labour Party, Juozas Bernatonis; Chairman of the Social Democratic Party, Aloyzas Sakalas; and a member of the Lithuanian Century [as heard; records state Centrist] Union, Egidijus Bickauskas. To the post of the Parliamentary Chancellor was elected a representative of the Democratic Labour Party, Neris Germanas. The third member of the ruling party in the leadership of Parliament is its Chairman, Mr. Ceslovas Jursenas, who was elected to the post earlier.

Brazauskas Ends Visit to France, Leaves for Geneva

LD1706214693 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas concluded his working visit in France and left for Geneva today. The annual forum of Cranz Montana will be held there. [passage omitted]

Algirdas Brazauskas will make a report on political and economic situation in Lithuania at the forum. He will also answer questions from the participants of the forum.

Gylys on Dismissal of Lozoraitis as Ambassador to U.S.

LD1706210893 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report on interview with Foreign Affairs Minister Povilas Gylys by correspondent Birute Vysniauskaite given at a news conference at the Foreign Ministry on 17 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Vysniauskaite] Povilas Gylys spoke about his visit to Athens where the meeting of foreign affairs ministers of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council was held. He said that Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, speaking at the meeting said that there was a possibility that the threat of tension in the Baltic states may develop into something similar to the conflict in Yugoslavia and that ethnic cleansing was carried out in these states with kid gloves. Lithuania and other Baltic states reacted vigorously to this statement.

Most of the time the news conference was devoted to the analysis of the work of the Foreign Affairs Ministry and to the dismissal of Stasys Lozoraitis from the post of ambassador in Washington. What is Mr. Gylys reaction to the fact that both the members of the Lithuanian Democratic Labor Seimas faction and the president's advisers are reproaching him for the dismissal of Stasys Lozoraitis?

[Gylys] I did not feel any great displeasure. I talked to the prime minister yesterday, well these hints [as heard] are made prematurely.

[Vysniauskaite] Why nevertheless, was Stasys Lozoraitis dismissed from the post of ambassador?

[Gylys] Let us start from the beginning, from the autumn of last year when the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania discussed the issue concerning Lozoraitis. At first it was decided to parallel his duties in Washington and Rome with the objective to transfer Lozoraitis to Rome in due course. The correspondents know better who was the candidate for the post of the ambassador in Washington. I am not sure... [pauses] I am aware of the correspondents views as they were written about. I realized that the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington was not accountable to the state of Lithuania. The financial report back was also not submitted.

I think that it would have been rather correct if after the elections Lozoraitis would have changed from a career diplomat into a political diplomat, because he was in a different political camp, and would have gone to the president and clarified what to do next.

[Vysniauskaite] What is Gylys' assessment of the statement made by Romualdas Ozolas, member of the Seimas, concerning his competence to continue his work in the post of foreign affairs minister?

[Gylys] As a person who is accountable to the taxpayer and who is not linked with state secrets, I am accountable to the public and I would like to settle my accounts... [pauses] I was prepared to present all these matters.

[Vysniauskaite] Before the conference Gylys also said that he was not going to resign from the post of foreign affairs minister, and that there was no proposal to Valdas Adamkus [high-ranking U.S. official of Lithuanian descent] to take up the post of the ambassador in Washington, and that so far Lozoraitis had all the plenipotentiaries to carry out his duties as ambassador. The agrement

[French] has not yet been sent to the U.S. State Department. This will be done in the near future.

Butkevicius, Polish Counterpart View Cooperation Treaty

LD1706172493 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2300 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Yesterday [15 June] Lithuania's Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius and his Polish counterpart, Janusz Onyszkiewicz, signed a treaty on cooperation between the Defense Ministries of both countries within the context of the European security and cooperation process. Today the Polish Defense Minister Janusz Onyszkiewicz gave a news conference. Here with the details is Ilona Rukiene.

[Rukiene] During his visit to Lithuania the Polish Defense Minister, Janusz Onyszkiewicz repeatedly stressed his country's friendly feelings toward Lithuania.

[Begin Onyszkiewicz recording, in Polish, fading to English translation] In Poland we view Lithuania with enormous sympathy. There is a strong desire to enter into closer relations of cooperation. The treaty signed yesterday will give a new boost to the historical relations between our two countries. [end recording]

[Rukiene] It is mainly events of the events of the past that now belong to history which make us attach enormous significance to the treaty signed yesterday as well as to the Polish defense minister's visit to Lithuania. [passage omitted]

Today's issue of LIETUVOS RYTAS daily publishes an excerpt from one of the speeches made by the Polish defense minister Janusz Onyszkiewicz. Quote: We want to see Lithuania convinced that Poland is her friend. We want to see Lithuania strengthen its economy and security. [passage omitted]

At the news conference in Vilnius today the Defense Minister Janusz Onyszkiewicz said that it was not easy to foresee what turn relations between the two countries would take in the future. Therefore it was very important that both states would see in each other a loyal friend and good neighbor.

The treaty signed yesterday provides for close cooperation between the Polish and Lithuanian defense structures.

[Begin Onyszkiewicz recording in Polish, fading to English translation] The concluded treaty is not a document sealing the establishment of a military union. The times of such unions in Europe have already passed or have not yet begun. We signed a treaty of cooperation which foresees the staging of joint officers' training sessions and the exploitation of military hardware and possibilities of both countries to participate in the peacekeeping forces of the United Nations and other international organizations were also discussed. Furthermore our cooperation is due to extend to the areas of airspace and sea border defense. We also pledged to hold joint sports competitions as well. [end recording]

[Rukiene] The defense ministers of both countries emphasized the importance of the treaty signed yesterday pointing out that these days a military pact was totally unnecessary, and besides history would not repeat itself, they said. Lithuania's Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius said that in general both countries seemed to be inclined to impart a mythical character to their mutual relations in the past which in the opinion of Mr. Butkevicius, were an obstacle standing in the way of future relations.

[Begin Butkevicius recording, in Lithuanian fading to English translation] Today every European state is looking for a place in the new European house. The old structure has either been dismantled or is no longer operational. The treaty that we signed yesterday broke the ice in the first such agreement with Poland following the reestablishment of Lithuanian independence. I would like to believe that this breaking of the ice will help to conclude a much needed political treaty between Lithuania and Poland. [end recording] [passage omitted]

[Rukiene] Deputy Foreign Minister Virginijus Papirtis told journalists that a new version of an interstate draft treaty had been passed over to the Polish side for scrutiny. According to Mr. Papirtis, attempts are being made to find a political and legal wording acceptable to both sides for the evaluation of events that took place in between the 1920 to 1939 period.

Landsbergis Statement on 'Provocations' by Russian Troops

LD1706202793 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1600 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] A statement on the provocations by the Russian troops was made by Vytautas Landsbergis, leader of the Seimas Opposition Tevynes Santara. Here is the text:

According to the official report from Riga the Russian military leadership is to hold military training in Latvia on 21-25 June with Russian military units from Lithuania and Estonia taking part.

While the Latvian Government is protesting against the future illegal movement of foreign troops on the territory of Latvia, Lithuania should not remain indifferent, the statement reads.

The foreign troops should move eastwards and should not act willfully. With two months remaining until the final withdrawal of the troops any training movement of troops without permission must be regarded as a demonstration of strength and a provocation which increases tension.

If this is not relinquished, such behavior by Russia should be discussed at the Council of Europe.